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THURSDAY MARCH 15TH, 2018

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"JAYMES WAS A VERY MODEST PERSON AND SAID IT'S WHAT ANYONE WOULD HAVE DONE, BUT I THINK HE'S A HERO"

Local man saves Evie!

Evie is now back at home.

by TIM CHAPMAN
07891 690798 or email
tim.chapman@
glamorgan-gem.co.uk

A BARRY mum has hailed her neighbour as 'a hero' for saving the life of her three-year-old daughter.

Sarah Huggins said that if Jaymes Burniston hadn't rushed three-year-old Evie into the University Hospital of Wales through the heavy snow, she thinks she might have died.

The drama unfolded on Saturday, March 3, when the town was cloaked in snow and people and vehicles were having difficulty getting about.

Sarah, who lives in Belvedere Crescent, explained that Evie has a history of serious health problems.

"She was born three months early and after six weeks, doctors diagnosed a brain condition 'agenesis of the corpus callosum'.

"At three months, she was 'floppy' and unable to sit up. When she was a year old, she was on life support after her lungs collapsed."

It means that if she falls ill, Sarah know it is vital to act quickly.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

The #WalkInHerName event proves a huge success as over 300 people turn out!

Around 300 people took part in the #walkinhername from Barry Cemetery to Barry Island (and back!) on Mother's Day - the walk was organised by Alison Woolcock (pictured on the left-hand side of the above picture) in memory of her sister Lesley, and also remembered people's loved ones and raised funds for Ovarian Cancer Action.
For more pictures and a full report of the event, please turn to page 3.

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Readers' Letters

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- Letters and e-mails MUST include your FULL address and a contact telephone number.

An email address alone is not sufficient!

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail.

'Rubbish separation a good thing'

RUBBISH isn't something I generally take an interest in; however, recently I started separating my family's recyclable waste.

Within no time at all we had tubs of the stuff, all neatly separated.

I was amazed to see that it all got mixed together again, so started making a weekly run to the recycling centre at the Bendricks. Just the sheer volume of rubbish that our household generates was an eye-opener – and we're no different to any other household.

I was delighted to read that the Vale Council are now going to introduce separated rubbish collection, although a little bewildered as to why they didn't do this in the first place.

However, I'm concerned that they are also introducing just two bags of non-recyclable rubbish a household, as I can see this leading to a lot of fly tipping.

I was also delighted to read that Barry-based Jones' Dairy has re-introduced returnable glass milk bottles, and have subscribed to this service.

All we need now is for a large supermarket chain to introduce returnable soft drinks bottles with a refundable deposit upon their return, and we will start to move towards the sort of levels of recycling that we had in the 1970s.

For us kids back then, returning these bottles was a stable income, and one that instilled in us a work ethic.

Households and consumers aren't to blame for the amount of rubbish they have. The supermarkets are.

Do I really need my apples placed in a tray and covered with polythene, for example.

Supermarkets must also play their part too if the amount of household waste is to be reduced.

Ade Pitman, Barry.

What about the Roman remains?

WHAT is the truth about the rumoured discovery of important Roman remains at the Five Mile Lane development?

Have Roman remains, including a mansion, been discovered and then destroyed by the building works, as local rumour suggests?

Can anyone in authority explain what has happened, what the plans are to protect anything found and what consultations have gone on with Wales' archaeological organisations?

Keith Sapsted, Boverton.

The GEM asked the Vale Council to comment on this. A spokesman said: "The council has begun preparatory work to improve the A4226 road, known locally as Five Mile Lane, with the aim of creating a better link between Barry and the A48.

"Before the road can be constructed, archaeological work must be carried out because finds of historical interest have previously been uncovered in the area. Among them was a Roman Villa, the structure of which was unearthed in the 1960s.

"The dig is being carried out by a specialist archaeological contractor and all works monitored by Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust (GGAT) to ensure the process is conducted correctly."

SEE MORE READER'S LETTERS ON PAGES 15 & 18.

'WE KNOW WHICH WAY THE WIND BLOWS'

IT was with great relief that I read in The GEM on March 8 that the Vale Council "overwhelmingly backed a motion demanding an Environmental Impact Assessment be carried out on the Biomass UK No2 Ltd Plant at Barry Docks".

I also feel reassured by a letter I received via email from Hanna Blethyn AM, the Welsh Assembly Minister for the Environment, who said: "You may be aware that a planning application is currently before Vale Council in respect of the Biomass UK No 2 Ltd installation.

"As I announced in Plenary on February 7, the Welsh Ministers have informed the developer of the plant they are minded to direct Environmental Impact Assessment must accompany their planning application. Before a final decision is made we have invited representations from the company."

I'm sure someone will correct me if I am mistaken, but as I understand it the EIA is a legal requirement; it is one of the first things that should have been done and the fact that it wasn't is a major bone of contention in this sorry saga.

The big money questions now are: If a 'planning application' is 'before' the Vale Council does that mean they have the power to refuse planning permission? If they do have that power, will they now fulfil their duty of care for the people of Barry and use that power?

One thing I am certain of is that the discharge from the chimney of the plant does get blown directly towards the town. I know this because I've seen it.

Travelling along Millennium Way towards the old Dock Offices on Saturday, March 10, I could clearly see a plume of smoke, fumes, whatever, rising from the chimney, which proved the real experts on the local wind patterns – the folk who actually live here – to be correct.

The discharge from that chimney was being blown directly towards the town.

I drive a motor scooter and it was a very easy matter to pull in and take a picture on my mobile phone. The fumes from the chimney can be seen clearly blowing straight towards the town, and Barry founder David Davies is a witness.

So now we really do know which way the wind blows.

David Alexander, Barry.

David Alexander's image of the David Davies statue near the chimney.

What plans for the water overflow from incinerator?

IF the Biomass plant works perfectly, nothing but fresh air comes out of the stack and all health and safety issues are rectified, but this in no way helps with the water discharge.

I recently asked the Vale Leader what concerns they have about the pumping of over 90,000 litres of 'clean' water a day into the drainage system by Biomass 2 Ltd. He explained to me what a combined sewer outlet was, and that they flood in times of heavy rain.

Well, I'm afraid that's not good enough – the outlet at the dock breached 170 times last year, that's raw sewage flowing into a dock that the people of Barry were told would one day be a marina – pub and restaurant-lined, with watersports and entertainment.

The increased housing had already put a strain on a system struggling to cope.

I spent three weeks picking up used sanitary towels, wet wipes, tampons and condoms from the Old Harbour after a recent breach.

Contaminated effluence flows into our streams, harbour and beaches, but none of them breach as often as the dock.

I cannot believe this is not a major concern to the local authority. We want a thriving Barry, a place to be proud of its natural and manmade features, not an overflow tank.

Grebes and cormorants feed there, the watersports centre has funding and planning for its new home, enquiries have been made for a diving centre – how will these be affected?

Joanne Cheek, Barry.

Reader's thanks for 'wonderful community'

I WOULD like to pass on my thanks to all the patients, staff and doctors at Llantwit Major Western Vale Practice who showed such concern when I was taken ill while waiting to see a doctor last Monday (March 5).

All the patients kindly allowed my husband to jump the queue without quibble and I'm very grateful for their patience.

A special thanks must go to the receptionist, who noticed my distress, and fetched a nurse to assist me who, with the three doctors in the surgery, gave me first class care.

I am much better now and wanted to say thank you to everyone. What a wonderful community we are fortunate to have!

Mrs Chris Green, Llantwit Major.

'Every man remembered'

IN this centenary of the year when the guns finally went silent in the Great War, it is the aim of the Royal British Legion that every man who gave his life should be remembered, an aim that is shared by the Barry branch.

We are sending representatives to France and Belgium in August to take part in The Great Pilgrimage, GP90 which commemorates the Pilgrimage of 1928 when thousands of veterans, families and war widows made the journey to the Menin Gate in Ypres and visited some of the battlefields.

We are taking remembrance crosses to lay at the places where men from Barry and the Vale are either buried or commemorated on a memorial.

If one of your relatives perished in the war, please contact us and allow us to honour their sacrifice. If you are unsure where they rest we can probably help as we have access to Service records and War Graves information.

We are also inviting local school children to submit a message to be inscribed on the wreath which we shall lay at the ceremony on August 8 at the Menin Gate.

If you would like to know more, why not come to our branch meeting on Tuesday, March 20 at 7.30pm at Cadoxton Conservative Club where we shall be giving a video presentation about our pilgrimage.

Remembrance crosses on which names and messages can be inscribed will be available. For more information contact me on 07914 382977.

Bob Wheatley
Royal British Legion Barry

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL MARCH 22)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
15 Thur	05.19	8.8	17.38	8.9
16 Fri	05.57	9.2	18.15	9.4
17 Sat	06.31	9.6	18.48	9.8
18 Sun	07.07	9.9	19.22	10.0
19 Mon	07.39	10.2	19.57	10.1
20 Tues	08.15	10.0	20.31	10.0
21 Wed	08.51	9.8	21.04	9.8
22 Thur	09.28	9.5	21.43	9.4

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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People of Barry united for #walkinhername

An estimated 300 people supported the event.

by GEM REPORTER
GOT A STORY?
Call us on 01446 774484 or email editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

AROUND 300 people took part in the #walkinhername from Barry Cemetery to Barry Island (and back!) on Mother's Day.

The walk was organised by Alison Woolcock in memory of her sister Lesley, and also remembered people's loved-ones and raised funds for Ovarian Cancer Action.

Alison told The GEM: "I think around 300 men, women and children walked the route.

"It was a fantastic atmosphere and demonstrated support for survivors and those currently in treatment for cancer. It also showed support for families of those who have lost a loved one.

"It was wonderful seeing those in treatment being honoured as they walked the route.

"Gold personalised balloons were created for those whom we have lost and silver personalised balloons for our warriors who are in treatment or are survivors. Many thanks go to Stuart at the Tynewydd Inn who donated helium to blow the balloons up.

"Also, I'd like to thank to our Assembly Member Jane Hutt and Court ward councillor Sandra Perkes who attended to show their support of the importance of early diagnosis of cancer.

"I want to thank Nic and Shirley Hodges of the Friends of Barry Cemetery who opened up the church in the cemetery grounds so people could light a candle for their loved ones, and also provided them with a drink and biscuit."

Alison explained: "March is Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month so it was fitting that we held this event.

"Around £3,300 was raised which will go towards finding an early diagnostic test as ovarian cancer is known as the silent killer.

"Currently it is estimated that 46 per cent of women will survive for five years: with early diagnosis this would increase to 90 per cent.

"When people got to Lesley's bench on Barry Island there were drinks and snacks available to help refresh before the walk back. A big thank you to Dawn Collard who donated 120 bottles of water."

She added: "This event showed Barry community spirit at its best – united and supportive."

Residents raise 'safety concerns' over Cardiff Road

by TIM CHAPMAN 07891 690798 or email tim.chapman@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

VALE councillor Rachel Nugent-Finn has written to the Chief Constable of South Wales Police to ask how the force intends to tackle 'problem speeding' along Cardiff Road.

Cllr Nugent-Finn points out that the road is notorious for being a boy-racer hotspot, and said residents had raised their concerns.

It follows similar action by her council colleague, Cllr Leighton Rowlands, who received complaints about speeding motorists in his Dyfan ward (reported in The GEM, on February 22).

Cllr Nugent-Finn explained that she wrote the letter after meeting local residents to discuss their concerns about the road.

She explained: "It's vital that when residents raise their concerns, we dig into the issue and try to find a solution.

"Having spoken with residents about Cardiff Road, I am deeply concerned for the safety of pedestrians trying to cross it. I want us to take action now – not wait until there is a serious accident."

Cllr Rachel Nugent-Finn (right) has met local residents who are worried about the speed of traffic on Cardiff Road.

It was on Cardiff Road in 2016 that Jenna Miller was killed when her car was struck by a man who was racing another car.

Cllr Nugent-Finn has also written to the council officer responsible for highways and has asked him to look at all the options to improve the safety of the pedestrian crossing on the road between the junctions of Laura Street and Cadoc Crescent.

She said that he had immediately arranged for the pedestrian crossing markings to be repainted as soon as the weather permits.

She added: "Moving forward, we are also looking to upgrade the crossing by reducing its length, relocate and modernise the warning beacons so that they are more visible, and improve the carriageway markings."

Boxing clever for Barry Men's Forum

BARRY Men's Forum were entertained recently by Kevin Fulthorpe who gave an insight into his involvement as an official of the British Boxing Board of Control after his retirement from boxing.

Kevin started out as a boxer in Ely, before joining the Victoria Park Boxing Club in Canton, Cardiff. Eventually, retirement beckoned and he entered the administration side of the sport, rising to chief inspector of the British Boxing Board of Control based in Cardiff.

He has served for 25 years as an inspector for the sport and is constantly in demand all over the UK. His duties are to oversee the full implementation of the rules for each tournament including the medical side, where two doctors have to be at the ringside, as well as an anaesthetist, an ambulance and a major hospital is within an hour of a tournament.

He has to ensure the correct setting up of a boxing ring from a health and safety aspect. The correct gloves and accurate weighing facilities are also part of his brief.

The group learned that winners' belts comprise an enamel badge mounted on a chain made from 9 carat gold on a silver plated belt.

To become a referee takes many years and involves duties such as timekeeping, a points recorder and a full knowledge of the Marquess of Queensberry Rules before being licensed to officiate in the boxing ring.

Barry Forum meets every Wednesday at Holy Trinity Church Hall, on Aberystwyth Crescent, Barry, at 9.45am; new members always welcome. For further information, contact Mac Tanner on 01446 743455.

The next speaker will be Ron Horton on 'Welfare in the Royal Air Force'. **PDGG**

NRW conducts investigation over 'dust complaints'

NATURAL Resources Wales has conducted an investigation after people in Barry complained about what they thought were unusual amounts of dust in the air.

A spokesperson from NRW said: "We've revisited various locations around the Barry Docks area and were unable to substantiate any unusual dust emissions.

"While there is grit/dust on the road and cars following recent weather events, there is no evidence of wood dust emissions specifically.

"A number of activities in the docks area have the potential to cause dust and this is not uncommon in industrial and coastal areas.

"We are issuing advice and guidance to a number of companies in the area to make sure all is being done to reduce any potential emissions.

"The wood stored at JMEL is chipped to 40mm at a separate location and we are satisfied that current storage arrangements are not contributing to dust off site.

"Nevertheless, we continue to ensure that dust suppression techniques are employed where necessary, e.g. during deliveries and adverse weather conditions."

The spokesperson added: "We will keep the situation under review and be regularly visiting the area and the sites we regulate."

Beastly Emma stopped ramblers

THE heavy snow at the beginning of March played havoc with walks and leaders Jan and John postponed their planned walk to Castell-upon-Alun for a week so the snow would have dispersed.

A group of nine walkers set off uphill beside the Fox and Hounds pub in St Brides Major, then up steps leading to the old Bryn Sion Chapel. A cattle grid led them onto the waterlogged Old Castle Down where no sheep were in evidence as it is lambing season; and then along a muddy narrow track through gorse bushes for the descent into Cwm Alun.

The River Alun was thundering underneath the railway bridge and after a thaw of snow and heavy overnight rain was almost at the top of its banks. Paddling along the road beside the river the first problem reared its head. The stepping stones known locally as Stepsau Duon or Pont y Brown across the ford were completely under water, so a continuation along the road brought them to the old packhorse bridge and over the river.

A slippery field led them up to the railway line and carefully crossing a muddy path in Coed y Wallas brought them back into fields at Wallas Farm. Following the road passing a field containing two lovely donkeys and a small Shetland pony peeping out from the shelter of a shed led them onto a road, which they followed northwards and where snow was still stacked up fairly high.

After pausing for morning coffee in the shelter of a gateway at Tair Cross Down, more fields led them downhill through cropped fields with misty views over the sprawling town of Bridgend and the hills beyond.

Crossing two old stone stiles a waterlogged track led them to Ewenny Priory built between 1115 and 1126 by William de Londres, and entering the churchyard for their lunch break a fairly heavy shower of rain forced them to retreat into the church for shelter. Following lunch and after viewing the historic interior they made their way back out into the rain which soon stopped as they made their way through Corntown.

Heading uphill at Heol y Cawl lane led them back into muddy fields, then out onto a road for a detour through Llampha and passing several farms it was back into fields to retrace their steps downhill back to Castle-upon-Alun for a quick visit to Coed y Bwl with its famous daffodils. An interesting chap who records the fungi each year for the Wildlife Trust of south and west Wales, who own the site, pointed out door snails whose shape resembles a chrysalis feeding on jelly ear fungus which is edible to humans and grows on tree branches.

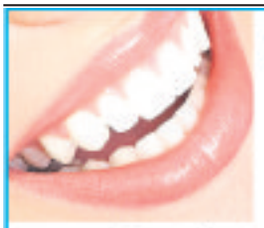
Then an uphill climb led to Blackhall Road for the walk back to St Brides Major after their enjoyable 9.5-mile hike.

On March 17, meet 9am at Cogan Leisure Centre for a 10-mile hard walk taking in Ferndale and Maerdy in the Rhondda Fach Valley; contact Rachel on 01446 410545.

On March 18, meet 9am at Cogan for a 7-mile moderate walk from Ystradfellte; contact Robin on 029 2051 4051.

To follow the group please log onto www.penarthramblers.wordpress.com or Facebook. Programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2025 5102.

JOY STRANGWARD



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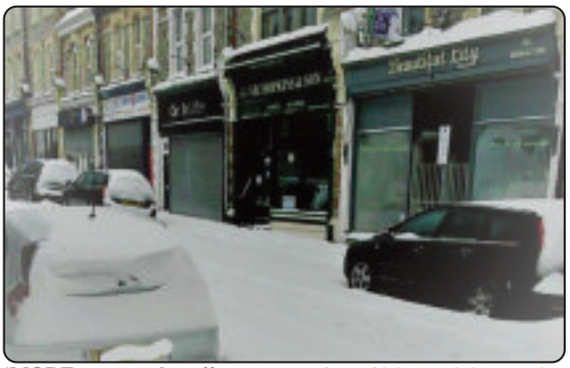
'More snow, please' says High Street butcher



'MORE snow, please!' – not something you usually hear, but High Street butcher Anthony Hopkins says "Bring it on!"

Anthony said: "Having heeded the warning about The Beast from the East, we were fully stocked and it's a good job we were.

"The panic buying started on Thursday morning and didn't let up all day. Friday was a 'snow day', and we didn't open, but did on Saturday.

"All of my staff made it to work. As Trevor lives near the Rugby Club, I told him not to risk it, but he walked! And it's a good job he did, as from the moment we opened the door, it was manic.

"Customers were queuing out of the door and not just our regular customers, but people we've never seen before. High Street was buzzing – it was like Christmas all over again. As people couldn't use their cars, they were unable to do a supermarket shop so they walked to High Street.

"It was amazing. Whole families were out together with children on sledges, strangers talking to one another and shopping for elderly neighbours. There was a real community spirit feel in the air.

"The best thing about it all has been the repeat customers we've seen since, with comments like how much better our meat tastes compared to pre-packed supermarket meat, and 'We always thought butchers were expensive, how wrong we were', 'The kids loved your homemade sausages, we won't be going back to a supermarket again'.

"All in all, it's been a very busy couple of weeks and we've had some laughs with customers old and new - I'm going to ask Derek The Weather nicely if we can have some more snow for Barrybados!" **AS**

EGGSTRA EGG APPEAL

Lyndsay and Nicola Ellis of

The Vale Funeral Service
Independent Funeral Directors

Are calling out for donations of easter eggs to their Easter Egg Appeal. All donated eggs will be given to the local charity Vale Food Bank

Vale foodbank Banc Bwyd Y Fro

From now until Monday 26th March, eggs can be brought to our office:
Lyndsay Ellis @ The Funeral Service, 181 Court Road, Cadoxton, Barry. **01446 407962**

Barry High Street group welcomes new chairman

Members of the High Street events committee are looking forward to Easter.

ANTHONY HOPKINS, a veteran of High Street for more than 34 years, has been elected the new chairman of the working group in charge of events and promotions in High Street, Barry.

Anthony said: "Exciting times are ahead! There are lots of new homes being built in and around Barry and we're here to let those residents know what a wonderful selection of shops and businesses High Street has to offer.

"Our first event is the legendary Easter Bonnet Parade, starting outside The Grind House (or inside if it's raining) at 11am on Saturday, March 31 and parading through High Street and Island Road. Every entry will receive an Easter egg and you might even get your picture in the paper!

"There will also be a 'Find the Easter Bunny' competition throughout High Street in the week leading up to Easter, with more Easter eggs to be won. Make a date in your diary – High Street is the place to be!

"Watch this space for more news and events on your local High Street and follow us on Facebook, High Street Shopping Quarter for more details."

Jaymes helps out young Evie

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

On that Saturday morning, she woke up at 5am to check on her son Callum who had been unwell, only to find Evie having a fit.

She tried to cool her down, but with no sign of improvement, she phoned for an ambulance.

"They said they'd get their nearest resources to us."

Sarah's mum arrived to help and the family alerted Jerry, a first aider who was out walking his dog, to their plight and he came in to help too.

With no sign of an ambulance, Sarah dashed out to see if there was someone who could get Evie to hospital.

In nearby Merthyr Street, she saw a house with a 4x4 vehicle outside it and banged on the door.

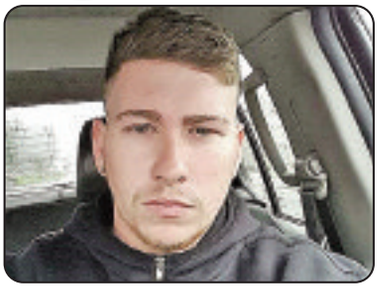
"The house was in darkness and I was worried that I'd woken the man up, but he said he was already up and taking a nurse into Llandough Hospital.

"Without hesitation, he agreed to take us to the Heath. When we arrived there, Evie was fast-tracked, and she had a lumbar puncture test. She began to perk up after two days.

"Jaymes was a very modest person and said it's what anyone would have done, but I think he's a hero. During the bad weather he used his vehicle to help a number of people and get nurses into hospital."

Evie was later diagnosed with flu and stayed in hospital for five days.

Sarah wants to thank Mike from the party supply shop in Holton Road for giving her balloons for Evie's birthday after the family were unable to have a party for her because she was unwell.



Sarah Huggins says Jaymes Burniston is a hero for getting Evie into hospital.

All Saints' community cinema

THE next screening on Thursday, March 22 will be *Easter Parade,* starring Fred Astaire and Judy Garland.

Doors open 7pm, film starts 7.30pm at All Saints' church hall, Victoria Square, Penarth.

Tickets £7.50 to include glass of wine or soft drink on arrival and Easter-themed snack on arrival. For tickets call Jane on 02920 708088.

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Local talk from an expert in planning for care costs

ANYONE concerned about how to protect their assets from the possible costs of Long Term Care, will be pleased to hear that on Thursday, March 29 at Brynhill Golf Club there will be a talk on this from locally based Blackstone Partners - Independent Financial Advisers, specialising in financial advice for those looking to protect their assets.

Following positive feedback from similar talks throughout Cardiff, this educational talk is being brought to the Vale.

In under an hour they will explain the most common mistakes to avoid when thinking about care costs; How the Vale decide who pays for their care; Why gifting your home to your children is a bad idea.

"It's estimated that around 40,000 people are forced to sell their homes each year to pay for care," says Gareth Chalk from Blackstone Partners who is hosting the talk.

"It's frustrating that people have worked hard to own their home and build up savings, to then worry that they may be wiped out in order to pay for care costs," he added.

The speaker is among only a few professionals in Wales qualified in the field of long term care planning and represents an opportunity not to be missed.

For further details, or to reserve a place, call Louise on 029 20813746.

Concerned about care costs?

- Learn the 7 best ways to protect your home and savings
- How the Vale of Glamorgan decide who pays for care
- Understand the most common mistakes people make when thinking about care costs

Join us for a free talk...

Tuesday 20th March 11.00 am Penarth Conservative Club & Thursday 29th March 11.00 am Brynhill Golf Club, Barry

For further details, and to reserve a place, call Louise on

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Jolly boating weather.

New members for Barry Yacht Club

FOLLOWING the article in last week's GEM regarding Barry Yacht Club's sea rowing section looking for new members, the response was excellent, it has been reported.

The meeting on Friday was attended by over 30 people covering several age groups, both male and female.

The presentation by Tony Peters, the rowing captain, was supported by a number of experienced rowers who were also able to answer questions and talk about the fun and exercise they get from rowing Celtic long boats, both in the Bristol Channel and at competitive league events around the Welsh coast.

The number of people who showed a serious interest in trial rows was very encouraging and over the next few weeks, the club will be arranging dates and times for a row which, depending on the weather and tides, will take place either in the channel or in the dock.

Such was the enthusiasm, one family group arrived for a row first thing on Sunday, despite the weather.

If you missed the feature in last week's GEM, you still have a chance to get involved by phoning Tony Peters, the rowing captain, who is also the Welsh Sea Rowing Safety Officer, on 07828 057381; or checking out their Facebook page: Barry Yacht Club Sea Rowing.

A history of musical genius at Barry U3A

AT the March meeting of Barry U3A, Rev Clive Williams gave an informative, broad brush talk on the progress of music from Bach, to Mozart, to Haydn through to Beethoven, together with examples played on the piano.

He likened Bach to Einstein, saying he had the mind of a mathematician when composing his fugues. Bach conducted the Leipzig University orchestra as well as the choir and his compositions were known as the 'Old Testament' of music. Clive then played Bach's 'Air on a G String'.

He went onto Mozart, who did most of his work in Vienna, a city that has supported many composers through the ages.

Clive played 'Voi Che Sapete' from *The Marriage of Figaro*, an example of one of Mozart's operas. Unfortunately, he died young and Clive played 'Ave Verum Corpus' as a poignant reminder of the beauty of his compositions.

While Mozart was in Vienna, he met Clive's next composer, Franz Haydn who became known as the 'Father of the Symphony'. Clive explained that the symphony began with Haydn as a series of dances strung together, usually starting with fast and furious, followed by slow and quiet twice, and usually ending with a bang of fast and furious again.

Haydn famously wrote 'Austrian Hymn', which Clive played, the German National Anthem.

Finally, it was Beethoven's turn, who took lessons from both Mozart and Haydn. Haydn called Beethoven either 'a fool or a genius' and in return Beethoven dedicated his first sonata to Haydn.

Beethoven has become known as the Shakespeare of music. Clive ended by playing Beethoven's 'Minuet in G'.

If you are no longer in full time employment or raising a family, then you are in your third age. New members are welcome to come along to meetings, and the next one is on Monday, April 9 at 2pm in Bethel Baptist Church Hall, Harbour Road on the roundabout in Park Crescent, Barry. Contact Christine on 01446 701537 for further information.

CD

Salvation Army welcome new church leaders

Mark and Maria-Rosa Kent.

PENARTH'S Salvation Army has new church leaders (corps officers): Major Maria-Rosa and Captain Mark Kent started in their roles on February 25.

The Kents have moved to Penarth after running The Salvation Army's hall in Pentre in Rhondda. Mark is originally from Newcastle and Maria-Rosa comes from Uruguay.

Maj and Capt Kent ran a medical centre for The Salvation Army in Paraguay for 10 years and Maria Rosa has also served in Uruguay and Argentina.

Maj Kent said: "We are both excited to be taking up our new positions; to be going out and getting to know the people of Penarth; to becoming part of that community and serving it in the best way we can.

"The Salvation Army is an international Christian church and charity dedicated to caring for people who are vulnerable or in need in every community. The Salvation Army in Penarth is no different, and we are here when you need us, offering compassionate support and practical help."

Penarth's Salvation Army hall is on 101a Plassey Street and on Sundays there is morning worship, Sunday school for children aged from three up to 11 and evening worship.

On Wednesdays there is a coffee and chat session; a lunch club for over 55s and on Thursdays there is a parent and toddler group and one Saturday a month, there is a monthly social event.

For more information about The Salvation Army in Penarth, visit: www.salvationarmy.org.uk/penarth.

NEWS IN BRIEF

RBL meeting

THE next meeting of the Royal British Legion, Barry will take place on Tuesday, March 20 at 7.30pm in Cadoxton Conservative Club.

It will be a very informal get together and members, non-members, volunteers or anyone wanting to join are welcome.

In this centenary year of the cessation of hostilities at the end of World War One there is much planned – come along and find out more. Follow us on Facebook 'Poppy Appeal Barry, Rhoose and Peterston'.

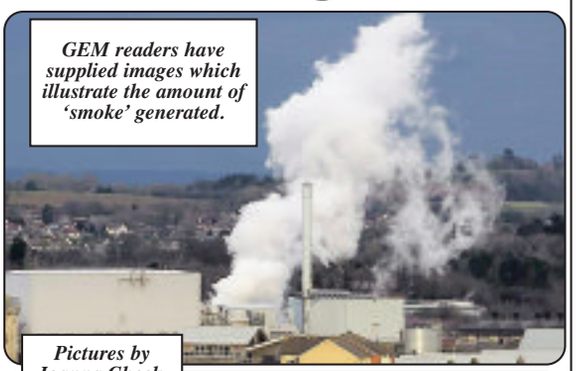
AM's surgery

VALE AM Jane Hutt will hold a surgery on Friday, March 16 from 10am – 11am at Age Connects, 38 Holton Road, Barry.

School enjoy belated St David's Day celebrations

YSGOL Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg Primary School celebrated a belated St David's Day and School Eisteddfod on March 8. Read a full report of their day on page 9.

Councillor's anger at billowing 'smoke'



GEM readers have supplied images which illustrate the amount of 'smoke' generated.

Pictures by Joanna Cheek.

Cllr Bailey took this image in the early hours of the morning.

A BARRY councillor says the amount of 'smoke' the Biomass UK No2 Ltd plant is generating is 'unacceptable'.

Dyfan's Cllr Vince Bailey returned to the town in the early hours of Thursday morning, March 8, after attending a football match in London.

He said: "For the incinerator to be pumping out plumes of what appears to be smoke and making loads of noise at 2.30am in the morning is simply unacceptable.

"NRW isn't doing its job, and the Welsh Labour Government needs to step in and stand up for the people they purport to represent.

"Not only is the incinerator creaking away in the early hours of the morning, work was under way on Sunday – which clearly breaches planning conditions.

"It's time for someone to take charge and stand up for Barry residents who are losing faith at the lack of action."

'Barry is very much on the up'

LAST week, Cardiff councillor Russell Goodway described Barry as "a town without a purpose", explaining that a port had emerged in the late 1800s, but by the 1920s it was in decline.

Barry councillor Vincent Bailey wrote to The GEM:

I read Cllr Goodway's comments about Barry with interest this week.

On the one hand, he is right that Barry must not exist merely as a commuter town – a dormitory for Cardiff workers, and there is work to do to create more high-quality jobs in the town.

But he is wrong to say that it has no purpose. I simply don't accept his downbeat assessment of Barry.

This town is very much on the up, with significant regeneration taking place.

You only have to look at the emergence of flagship restaurants like Hang Fire, and witness the enduring popularity of the Island to see that Barry has huge potential.

Actually, if Cllr Goodway really wants to help his adopted town, he should focus his efforts on persuading Labour colleagues in Cardiff Bay to block the incinerator.

I can't think of anything else that could damage Barry's future more than this bellowing abomination.

CRAFTS AND COFFEE AT SALEM

AN Easter family crafts and coffee morning will take place at Salem Baptist Church, Beryl Road, Barry on Saturday, March 24 from 10am-12pm.

Come along an enjoy tea, coffee and hot cross buns. Tickets £2 adults; free arts and crafts for children of all ages.

DINAS POWYS COUNCILLORS' SURGERY

The next free councillors' coffee morning will be held on Saturday, March 17, from 11am to 12.30pm.

The venue is the Murch Community Centre, Sunnycroft Lane, Dinas Powys.

Cllr Chris Franks said: "There's lot to discuss including the impact of the lasting planning permission for 215 houses at the St Cyres site, traffic issues and poor road maintenance."

GET 'PREHISTORIC' IN PENARTH!

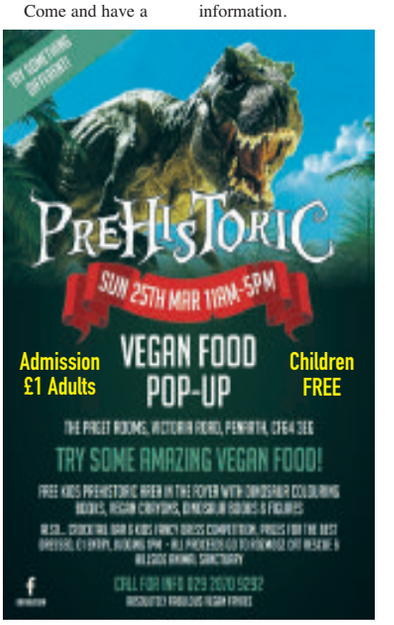
THE 'Prehistoric' vegan food pop-up event takes place on Sunday, March 25 between 11am-5pm at The Paget Rooms,Victoria Road, Penarth, CF64 3EG - admission is £1 for adults, and kids go free!

There will be tables and chairs arranged for you to sit and enjoy great food, or you can take the food away.

Among the many companies at the event will be Babita's Spice Deli - gluten-free Indian and Asian dishes (apart from the samosas!), Seitan's Grill, the Field Bar specialising in wine and fruit-flavoured gins, Shirley's Raw Handmade Chocolate, suitable for diabetics, Jane's Better Butter, Crepe Escape, Windsor Fruit Stores, Eat Petite bakes and Welshman's Lunch.

There will also be cruelty-free makeup on offer as well as charity stalls and a free kids corner.

Come and have a great day out with us - telephone Sue 02920 709292 for more information.



Barry's Dambuster to be 'reunited' with fellow 617 Squadron members

A PORTRAIT of the only Welsh Dambuster, Gordon Yeo, will 'reunite' the front gunner with all 132 members of No. 671 Squadron – The Dambusters – in a poignant exhibition to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the most famous, and one of the most audacious, air raid of WW2 on May 16-17 this year.

Artist Dan Llywelyn Hall, known for painting portraits of HM The Queen, HRH The Duke of Cambridge, and WW1 veteran, Harry Patch, is now working on an official portrait of the last British Dambuster along with all members of the famous 617 Sqn that includes the only Welsh Dambuster, Sergeant Gordon Yeo also from Barry, like Dan.

Dan had a sitting with the last British surviving Dambuster Squadron Leader George 'Johnny' Johnson (96) last month in Bristol and has since been painting all the squadron inspired by archival photos in a bid to 'reunite' the entire squadron.

The Welsh artist is offering the public a chance to invest in this historic exhibition and help three charities with proceeds and donations from the exhibition.

The exhibition – *Dambusters Reunited* – is due to launch in London in mid-May with an unveiling of Johnny's portrait and alongside Charles Foster's book launch of *The Complete Dambusters* with detailed research into each member of the squadron.

People may pre-order one of the limited-edition (75) hardback catalogues and prints that will benefit three charities: RAF Benevolent Fund; Group 617; and International Bomber Command Centre.

Gordon Yeo was front gunner in the Avro Lancaster AJ-A 'Apple' in the first wave of bombers of 617 Sqn to attack the Möhne Dam on the night of May 16-17, 1943, in what was called Operation Chastise.

They dropped their Barnes Wallis-designed bouncing bomb, or more accurately, the 'Upkeep' mine, from low level and scored a direct hit.

Shortly afterwards, the first of the three dams gave way and vast quantities of water flooded the Ruhr Valley to make a severe dent in the German war effort.

The raid was declared to be a strategic success, but the cost in terms of human life was enormous.

After successfully crossing Germany en route for home, A-Apple was shot down by one of the last ack-ack batteries located on the coast of Holland. It was one of the eight that failed to return, resulting in the loss of 56 lives.

Born in Barry in 1922, Gordon Yeo was the youngest member of Squadron Leader Henry Melvin 'Dinghy' Young's crew. He had joined the RAF in 1941 and wanted to be a pilot.

Having been initially posted to Elementary Flying School in Canada, he eventually qualified as a gunner.

After crewing up with David Horsfall, Lawrence Nichols and Wilfred Ibbotson at 1660 Conversion Unit at RAF Swinderby, he flew with them on an operation to Berlin on 16 January 1943, with Pilot Officer V Duxbury as their pilot.

By the time the crew moved to 57 Squadron at Scampton in mid-March, Dinghy Young had become their pilot and Charles Roberts their navigator.

On March 25, they were posted across the base into the fledgling 617 Sqn and the young gunner would have met a few with much more experience than him. But he would also have found several more, like him, with very few operations under their belts.

Yeo wrote several letters to his parents during his time with 617 Sqn, and they give us some insight into how hard they trained, and what they did in their spare time.

Dinghy Young drove the crew into Lincoln on a day off from training to watch a parade which was part of the city's 'Wings for Victory' week.

This reminded the crew of their skipper's chequered history - "We had a good laugh at the blokes all dressed up in flying clothes and sitting in the dinghy. (Melvin Young) had a good laugh at them because he had detailed them."

Later, he told his parents about Young's determined efforts to ensure they were trained hard: "You say you want to know the name of our skipper, well here it is, Squadron Leader H M Young, he is not so bad lately, I expect that is because we are getting used to him, but he is the cause more or less of us not getting leave."

The Lancaster's front gun turret was not used during most wartime operations, but on the Dams Raid it was manned as the modification for the special mine had necessitated the removal of the mid-upper turret.

Yeo would have used it to fire directly ahead of him at the Möhne's gun emplacements as Young kept the aircraft steady on its bombing run.

In the months after the raid, Gordon Yeo's mother must have written to Henry Young, Melvin Young's father, as his reply to her dated July 13, 1943 shows.

He ends his letter with the words: "With many thanks for your kind sympathy which I feel too for all those who have suffered the same loss."

A 'crowdfunder' page has been commissioned to assist with the exhibition, although the page expired on March 11. Visit www.crowdfunder.co.uk/the-last-dambuster-exhibition for more information and to contribute.

For more information on the artist Dan Llywelyn Hall, visit www.danlhall.com; for more information on author Charles Foster and his works, visit www.dambustersblog.com.

Footnote: Gordon Yeo's logbook was stolen in the early 2000s. No-one has been charged with the theft, and the location of the logbook is unknown.

Readers may also be aware that Penarth Pavilion has the '617 Room' with artefacts and memorabilia relating to 617 The Dambusters (motto: *Après moi le déluge*). Why? Because Wing Commander Guy Penrose Gibson, VC, DSO & Bar, DFC & Bar, had a very strong connection to the town: in November 1940, he married Penarth local Evelyn Moore.

The other surviving Dambuster is Canadian Fred Sutherland, who, like Gordon Yeo, was a front gunner.

He lives in his native Alberta.

The crew of AJ-A: (L-R) Sqn Ldr Melvin Young (pilot), Sgt David Horsfall (flight engineer), Flt Sgt Charles Roberts (navigator), Sgt Lawrence Nichols (wireless operator), Flg Off Vincent MacCausland (bomb aimer), Sgt Gordon Yeo (front gunner), Sgt Wilfred Ibbotson (rear gunner). The crew are buried in the General Cemetery of the Dutch town of Bergen. Image courtesy of www.dambustersblog.com.

RIGHT: Barry-born Sergeant Gordon Yeo, who died aged 20. Photo courtesy of the Humphries Family Collection.

617 Squadron Dambusters Memorial, Woodhall Spa, Lincolnshire, near to RAF Scampton. Photo by Ron Strutt.

Artist Dan Llywelyn Hall with George 'Johnny' Johnson. Photo courtesy of Richard Brewis.

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Front row from right: Steffan Davies, Ntayha Gatusso-Havard, Isabella Chowdhury.

Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg's belated St David's Day celebrations

YSGOL Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg Primary School celebrated a belated St David's Day and School Eisteddfod.

On March 8 the whole school, from meithrin up to year-6, had an exciting morning competing in reciting, singing, written work and handwriting competitions as part of their school eisteddfod.

The winners will now go forward to the local schools cluster Eisteddfod held on March 17.

For the first time in the primary school's short history they held their own 'Chairing of the Bard' ceremony using the same traditions as the National Eisteddfod itself.

The chairing of the Bard is a traditional ceremony held at the National Eisteddfod each year. It is a competition where poets compete to be crowned the best Bard in Wales – in our case, the best from year-6 at Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg!

As in the National Eisteddfod, the bards must enter under a 'nom de plume' or pen name to avoid bias and secure impartiality in the judging. This also makes the ceremony more exciting when the victorious bard is finally named.

This year, the theme chosen for the competition was 'Bwrlwn y Barri'. The children were encouraged to write about why Barry was special to them, focusing on their senses, memories and personal experiences to help their writing.

A teacher from YGBM senior school's Welsh department had the difficult job of judging the year-6 entries.

Our first ever winner was Ntayha Gatusso-Havard, who wrote her poem in the guise of 'meddwl'. Ntayha received a trophy and gifts to commemorate her prowess as a bard.

Steffan Davies came second and Isabella Chowdhury third.

Miss Pugh, year-6 teacher, commented: "As it was our first chairing of the Bard it made the day extremely special. The standard of work from the whole of my year-6 class was excellent and the judge certainly had a difficult job. I am very proud of them."

It was lovely to see the enthusiasm from all the pupils in the school, especially the year-5 children who will get their chance next year. *Da iawn bawb.*

Winning poem 'Bwrlwm y Barri':
Calon y Barri yw Ynys y Barri,
Y gwunt yn chwythu yn gadarn.
Blasus yw'r bwyd ar yr ynys,
y tywod melyn yn dawnsio'n ysgafn,
y plant yn haps yn chwarae'n llon.
Y goedwig ffyrnig yn dawnsio'n ddiffaith,
Arogl barbeciw yn llifo ym mhobman.
Y grisiau hudolus yn esgyn i gopa'r bryn.
Caffis bach yn arogli'n chwaethus,
Cacennau lliwgar yn blasu'n hyfryd,
Tra'n gwylio'r haul yn goleuo'r gorwel.
Y môr cyffrous yn siglo'n swnllyd,
Tonnau enfawr yn neidio'n ddrygionus.
Dyna yw'r Barri i mi.

MRS MENNA ROBERTS

The fab four organising the reunion.

BRYN HAFREN REUNION IS ALL SET FOR MAY

FOUR ladies, former pupils of Bryn Hafren Comprehensive School in Barry, are organising a reunion.

The quartet – Sara Ball (Barnes), Lynne Cross (Parsons), Angela Seymour (Fido) and Janet Edwards (Read) – take up the story: "The class of 73 was the first year of Bryn Hafren Comprehensive School, with pupils born between September 1, 1961 and August 31, 1962.

"Now, 45 years later, the school will become a mixed school with a new name.

"To celebrate the 40 years since we took our O-Levels, as well as the years we spent at Bryn Hafren, we are inviting you to our reunion to take place at the school on Saturday, May 26 from 7pm.

"There will be food, drink, and entertainment, and we would love to see you and catch up on the past 40 years!"

To book tickets – priced at £12.50 – visit www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/class-of-73-bryn-hafren-school-reunion-tickets-42381882351.

Vale schools will 'lose out' *WARNS LEADER*

THE Leader of the Vale Council has warned that schools in the county will suffer a complete cut in funding for supporting minority, ethnic and gypsy and traveller pupils, while other local authorities will be given extra money.

Cllr John Thomas, said: "The Welsh Government has removed the Minority Ethnic Achievement Grant which all local authorities previously received and is making up for this in the short-term by providing financial support to 'urban' authorities."

However, the Welsh Government responded angrily, calling it "misinformation".

Cllr Thomas said: "The Vale has the fourth-highest proportion of pupils from ethnic minority groups in Wales. A letter from the First Minister confirms that three local authorities are being provided with additional funding to enable this important work to continue. However, the Vale is not included and will lose out yet again, as will our pupils.

"This is another example of a nonsensical approach to funding education from the Welsh Government and a bitter pill to swallow considering the extent to which pupils in the Vale are already disadvantaged by an unfair funding formula.

"In the Council's budget for 2018/19 we have already had to find an additional £3million to top-up the money provided by Welsh Government.

"It is simply impossible for us to continue to raise additional funding locally to solve the problems created by what increasingly appears to be a deliberate effort to punish the Vale through underfunding."

The council's Ethnic Minority Achievement Service currently provides support to schools to help vulnerable qualifying pupils, including children of refugee families who have been resettled in the Vale, develop their literacy and numeracy skills. Without this support many pupils could not access the curriculum.

The support services provided by the council to schools using this grant totalled £240,000 in 2017/18.

Removal of support will have an acute impact on certain schools such as St Cyres in Penarth where 24 per cent of pupils are from a minority background. A number of primary schools will also be affected.

Cllr Thomas said: "While the funding of education to some of the most vulnerable young people may not appear to be important to Welsh Government, it remains an important issue for us locally. We will now have to consider how we divert certain elements of funding away from other vital local services to continue to at the very least part-fund this important area of work."

A Welsh Government spokesperson said: "We are concerned by this outbreak of misinformation in the Vale. As the council will be well aware, the national Minority Ethnic Achievement Grant ceased to exist in 2014.

"Across Welsh Government we have taken action to prioritise funding to the Local Government Settlement to ensure resources go straight to the front line to support schools and social care.

"With regard to funding for minority group learners, we recognise that recent changes in funding arrangements have resulted in particular challenges for three local authorities – but the Vale is not one of them.

"The Vale will see an increase to its core funding next year, equivalent to 0.2% or more than £300,000.

"Rather than use local authority resources to write to parents and shift the blame away from themselves, it is time for the local authority to focus on what is important - properly funding their local schools."

The leaders of all 22 local authorities in Wales wrote to First Minister Carwyn Jones in January to express concern about the decision to cut the Minority Ethnic Achievement Grant.

The recent response means that 19 out of the 22 Welsh local authorities are left with nothing.

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Tree planting for International Women's Day

A TREE planting event organised by Mel Stewart, site ranger at Porthkerry Park, took place on International Women's Day (March 8), where five saplings were planted in what was described as a "symbolic gesture connecting Wales with Africa.

"The planting also highlighted the concerns of climate change across the world."

The first sapling was planted by Hellen Nkuraiya, a Maasai leader from Kenya who has spent her life rescuing girls from female genital mutilation and forced marriage. **LB**

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BBC researcher is convicted of a drink-driving offence

A BBC drama researcher was found to have more than three times the legal limit of alcohol in his system when he pulled into a layby on the M4, Cardiff Crown Court has heard, *writes AJ SICLUNA*.

Charles Jackson (27) had been seen driving erratically out of Cardiff towards the motorway and when an off-duty special constable approached his vehicle when it stopped at traffic lights, Jackson accelerated away, causing the officer to fall and suffer slight injuries, said prosecutor Jason Howells.

Jackson, who wept throughout the hearing, of West Road, Nottage, Porthcawl, had no previous convictions and had admitted charges of dangerous driving and driving with excess alcohol.

He was sentenced to six months' imprisonment, suspended for a year, ordered to take part in a rehabilitation activity and was placed on an electronically-tagged curfew from 9pm to 5am for six months.

He was also disqualified from driving for two years and ordered to take an extended driving test.

In addition, he was ordered to pay costs of £340 and to pay the Special Constable Rhys Mack of Quaker's Yard £500 compensation.

Mr Howells said that on September 23, Jackson was spotted driving along North Road, meandering and veering between lanes.

Mr Mack was a passenger in a car behind and saw Jackson almost mount a kerb and to the officer he appeared to be under the influence of alcohol.

He tried to get Jackson to stop the engine, but he accelerated away, causing Mr Mack to fall.

He eventually stopped 25 miles later at Junction 37 on the M4.

Jackson was arrested and said: "What dangerous driving? What injuries? What do you mean?"

He was later found to have 108 microgrammes of alcohol in 100 ml of blood. The limit is 35µg.

He told officers he had earlier drunk eight or nine pints of lager, had an alcohol problem and had intended to take a taxi home. When told to stop driving, he said, he panicked and had travelled at speeds of up to 80mph on the M4.

"He was apologetic and remorseful," said Mr Howells.

His counsel, Lisa Wilson, said: "He is under no illusion as to how serious these offences are. He stopped voluntarily."

She said he had sought assistance with his alcoholism and had stopped drinking entirely.

She described him as a 'vulnerable person' who had suffered from depression and had received great support from his family and partner.

"He acknowledges his liberty deserves to be restricted."

Recorder Richard Williams commended the special constable who had acted in the "best public interest".

Pebble-painting proves successful for autism group

AN 'Autism Rocks awareness' group has been set up on Facebook by mums in Barry who have children with autism.

The group already has almost 200 members who use it as a forum to exchange information on the condition.

The group's introduction explains: "Jumping on the rock/pebble-finding bandwagon we thought we would create this group to help spread awareness of autism while having fun painting, hiding and finding rocks or pebbles."

The group spreads awareness of autism while having fun painting, hiding and finding rocks or pebbles.

Cardiff Bus to introduce contactless payment

PAYING for your journey on Cardiff Bus will become easier with the introduction of contactless payment technology across its entire network from March 25.

This follows a successful trial period across the bus operator's Baycar, 27, 57 and 58 services over the past few months.

The contactless payment technology will complement existing payment methods, including mobile and online payment options via the iff card portal, as well as its direct debit scheme, allowing greater flexibility and choice for millions of customers who choose Cardiff Bus.

It is hoped the new payment method will help speed up boarding and improve journey times, commercial manager of Cardiff Bus, Gareth Stevens, said.

Mr Stevens added: "We are delighted to be launching the contactless card payment option across our entire network of bus services. This will provide our customers with even more ways to pay for their travel, continuing our investment in alternative payment technologies.

"With mobile ticketing, online payment and our direct debit scheme, there are already a number of ways customers can pay before they board a bus, some of which offer a discount to fares on the day of purchase.

"This additional payment option gives more flexibility, meaning our customers will no longer need to worry about having enough cash when they board our buses."

Customers with any questions about the new contactless payment technology from Cardiff Bus or queries about any other payments can visit www.cardiffbus.com/

advertisement feature

Diarrhoea, flatulence or abdominal pain?

The riddle of recurring intestinal problems

The cause of recurring intestinal problems often resembles a guessing game – for doctors as well as for people affected. Recently, research has shown: in many cases the reason is an irritated bowel, the so called Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS). Fortunately, there is a promising relief called Kijimea IBS. And it is now available in the UK.

For a long time, the causes of recurring intestinal problems were a mystery to scientists. Recently, they found a possible answer: symptoms such as diarrhoea, bloating, flatulence or abdominal pain could be a sign for an irritated bowel, the so called Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS). Today, experts are increasingly convinced that IBS may be caused by small damages in the intestinal barrier. These might allow pollutants and pathogens to enter the intestinal wall, triggering the typical IBS symptoms.

Effective help for IBS sufferers

The good news is, a group of renowned scientists made a discovery: A globally unique bifidobacterium (B. bifidum MIMBb75) – contained exclusively in Kijimea IBS. This bacterial strain attaches itself directly to the surface of the intestinal wall. Essentially, it covers the damaged intestinal wall like a plaster and forms a protective layer.

Promising study results

The effectiveness of Kijimea IBS has been shown in a clinical study. During the study, most IBS symptoms did not only significantly improve due to Kijimea IBS, but in some cases also disappeared. Furthermore, the bifidobacterium included in Kijimea IBS is the only one worldwide that simultaneously showed an increase in the quality of life of most IBS patients.

Now available in the UK – Kijimea IBS

In many other countries, Kijimea IBS has already proven to be successful. This product is now available in the UK, too. Kijimea IBS is available over the pharmacist counter. It is prescription-free and has no known side effects.

Kijimea IBS is brand-new!

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- **your independent pharmacy or Superdrug pharmacy or**
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Show this coupon to your pharmacist to order Kijimea for you!

Dear pharmacist, Kijimea IBS is new on the UK market. If you cannot find it in your own supplier system, please make a special order through the Alliance wholesale system.

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The photo in this advertisement contains models, not IBS patients. If symptoms persist and/or persist, consult a doctor. For more information visit www.kijimea.co.uk

CHEFS USE BRAINS TO GET AHEAD

Brains' apprentice chefs at Cardiff and Vale College.

CARDIFF and Vale College (CAVC) has joined forces with SA Brain & Co Ltd to provide work-based learning for its chefs in pubs across Wales.

The partnership will allow the college to deliver apprenticeships in food production to train the next generation of chefs for Brains. The apprenticeship will be delivered across Wales by CAVC, working with partner organisations and follows a two-year top-to-bottom training strategy review by Brains.

Brains' kitchen skills manager Nathan Evans said: "We have worked hard over the last two years to fully review the programmes that we offer our kitchen teams and ensure that we have the right apprenticeship programmes available for the skill base that we use. We have invested heavily in building our 'kitchen essentials' development programme that works in harmony with the standards and skills required to achieve the qualifications, meaning we have an end to end qualified pathway for all levels of chefs within our kitchens."

CS

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ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

Specsavers' teams up-skill awareness in glaucoma - the silent thief of sight

In the build up to World Glaucoma Week this week, Specsavers teams have been up-skilling to better support patients with the condition.

Often symptomless in its early stages, glaucoma is the leading cause of irreversible sight loss. It is thought to affect 700,000 people in the UK today, but as many as 50% of cases are undiagnosed*.

In conjunction with the International Glaucoma Association, Specsavers has developed training for its retail teams to assist sufferers with their treatment. Specifically, they will be advising on how to effectively administer eye drops, which are crucial for managing the condition.

This new training complements the skills held by Specsavers' optometrists, who have collectively completed almost 5,000 postgraduate glaucoma accreditations since 2017, through a variety of accrediting bodies including Cardiff University and the College of Optometrists.

Alan Murphy was just 37 when a trip to Specsavers found the early stages of glaucoma. Thanks to early detection,

his condition is now managed by using eye drops daily.

Alan, now an advocate of regular eye tests and good eye health, believes early diagnosis and careful management has saved his sight. He says: 'I would strongly urge people to go for regular eye tests, and to make the most of the advice and support provided by their local optician.'

Karen Osborn, chief executive of IGA, says: 'The majority of people who are diagnosed early with glaucoma will retain useful sight for life. Most will be treated with medical eye drops. Unfortunately we know from calls to our helpline that many people aren't told about how to put the drop in the eye correctly, or aren't advised about the aids that are available to help them. We are delighted to work with Specsavers on this often over-looked aspect of glaucoma management.'

*RNIB State of the Nation Eye Health Report 2017

Specsavers

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'RAISE A GLASS AND BE GRATEFUL TO FARMERS'

A GEM column by Rachel Saunders of the FUW

WE'RE half way through March and most of the population will be looking forward to a few days off over the Easter break, a little nugget of stress-free time that we look forward to after the long, dark winter. It's a celebration of food and family time, without the hassle of writing Christmas cards and shopping for presents.

The spring flowers have by now recovered from the recent blast of snow and ice, lambs and calves are out and about and maybe you'll start thinking about the Easter roast. So spare a thought for those who were out battling the weather just a few weeks back here in Glamorgan across Wales, making sure we have a continued, safe supply of food on our supermarket shelves.

The Farmers' Union of Wales (FUW) has long argued that #FarmingMatters, not just because of a single farm and the food it produces, but because of all the other businesses that rely on the sector for their survival and who keep the wheels of the rural economy turning.

People need to understand the challenges, the physical and emotional effort that goes into producing food of the highest standard, while also managing resources to get the best from them. After all, our farmers are renowned worldwide for adhering to excellent animal health and welfare standards and producing food of exceptional quality.

Rachel Saunders of the FUW.

So if we don't want to see our supermarket shelves flooded with foreign imports, such as chlorine-washed chicken or rotten Brazilian beef, then we must make a real effort to support our farmers here at home.

The FUW will continue to highlight that support for agriculture is not simply support for farmers. The support delivers an economic dividend of about 7:1, that is: for every £1 of support into agriculture, more than £7 of economic activity is generated. Let us not forget that Welsh agriculture's gross output is almost £1.5 billion and that food and drinks exports are worth £302 million to the economy of Wales.

If we want to see our Welsh family farms prosper in future and see them continuing to produce the food we all love so much, regardless of what market access we have, then we must ensure that the role they play is recognised by all.

Editor's note:

The Mountain sheep are sweeter,
But the Valley sheep are fatter,
We therefore deemed it meeter
To carry off the latter!

More seriously, The GEM received a number of letters thanking local farmers for their assistance during the recent snowstorms.

Such acts by these stewards of the land were replicated across rural areas in Wales and in the rest of the United Kingdom while they still performed their 'day job' of protecting their flocks, herds, crops, and livelihoods from the ravages of a late wintry blast.

Being stuck behind a tractor occasionally suddenly doesn't seem such a hardship.

GET ON YOUR BIKE FOR TENOVUS...

TENOVUS Cancer Care (TCC) is asking cyclists are tackling the popular CARTEN100 challenge to help raise vital funds towards its Closer to Home Appeal.

The appeal has been selected as one of the two charity partners for this year's CARTEN100, a 100-mile cycle ride from Cardiff to Tenby taking place on Saturday, May 12.

Both CARTEN100 organisers and TCC are inviting riders to collect money for the charity's appeal, which aims to raise £1 million to fund the build and initial running costs of a mobile support unit (MSU).

The MSU, the charity's third, will launch later this year and will be the largest mobile chemotherapy unit in the world. It is hoped that the challenge will help raise £50,000 towards the appeal.

A spokesperson said: "Riders will cover 100 miles on the day and by supporting the cancer charity, they will also be helping to save cancer patients from travelling miles for their treatment, reducing the stress and expense of travelling to hospital."

Sam Warburton, Welsh international rugby player and a patron of the appeal, said: "I've seen first-hand the difference the MSU make to cancer patients and their loved ones. They're so spacious, user friendly, convenient and comfortable. This is a great opportunity for CARTEN riders to get behind the charity and help shape the future of cancer treatment in Wales."

More information on the Closer to Home Appeal can be found at tenovuscancercare.org.uk/closertohome.

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100 STORIES FOR 100 YEARS FOR ST JOHN CYMRU

ST John Cymru needs your help to find 100 stories to celebrate '100 years of being there' for the people of Wales.

Formed on St David's Day in 1918, the nation's leading first aid charity was there to help wounded soldiers in World War One.

Over the decades, volunteers have supported Welsh communities through the lows, such as the Aberfan disaster, and through the highs of Wales' Grand Slam wins.

Julia Hobbs, chief executive for St John Cymru, said: "It's an incredibly exciting year for us and I hope everyone will get behind our celebrations and share their stories with us.

"We have set up a special website to capture people's memories of St John Cymru over the last 100 years and we can't wait to find out how our volunteers have made a difference.

"You only have to look at the tremendous efforts of our volunteers during the extreme snow conditions – getting patients and staff to and from hospital – to know we're as relevant today as we were 100 years ago.

"With the support of the people of Wales, we can make sure St John Cymru continues to be there."

The centenary celebrations will also tell the story of how St John Cymru volunteers helped to set up the 130th (St John) Field Ambulance during World War One.

A replica World War One ambulance will be taken to key events and schools, to share the charity's history and to encourage more people to learn first aid.

Do you have a story to share?

Was a member of your family involved with the 130th (St John) Field Ambulance?

Have you been helped by our volunteers at an event and would like to say thank you?

Have you used the first aid skills that St John Cymru taught you in a real life emergency?

Are you taking part in a challenge to raise money for St John Cymru?

Share your stories at www.stjohn.wales/100 or tag us on Facebook and Twitter @StJohnWales using #SJCW100.

NFU's #SeeItChangeIt initative aims to improve safety and wellbeing

The Rural Affairs Board vow to #SeeItChangeIt.

MEMBERS of the NFU Cymru Rural Affairs Board have joined the NFU's farm safety campaign #SeeItChangeIt.

The campaign, which was launched at the NFU Conference in Birmingham, is the latest initiative to improve safety and wellbeing on farms and aims to get farmers actively looking for risks on farm and using simple cost-effective ways to eliminate them.

During the recent Rural Affairs Board meeting each member of the board filled out a campaign 'promise card', selecting one thing they would do to improve their safety and wellbeing on their farm.

NFU Cymru Rural Affairs Board chairman, Hedd Pugh, said: "It is widely acknowledged that the safety record in the farming sector needs improving, and there are simple but specific practices that we can change ourselves.

"We all have a part to play in improving safety and wellbeing on farms and this campaign aims to get farmers actively looking for risks and doing something about it: whether it's a promise to check their PTO shaft every week, wear a helmet every time they ride an ATV, note their OS grid reference to use in emergencies or simply to keep their mobile phone charged and on their person.

"It must also be noted that the mental wellbeing of farmers is just as important as physical safety. Stress and depression are among many other illnesses that can massively impact your life and work, and we must be able to recognise when we need help.

"Members of the Rural Affairs Board have pledged to take these messages back to their respective counties to ensure farm safety is at the forefront of everyone's minds when carrying out their day-to-day tasks on farm.

"We urge you all to get behind this campaign and use it to make one change that will improve your own wellbeing and that of the farming industry." **AS**

FES celebrates one year at Llandow

FOUNDED in 1981 by current managing director Ieuan Thomas, Fasteners and Engineering Supplies (FES) has enjoyed steady growth and expansion.

FES started in a small Portakabin at the rear of 5 Westgate Street, Cowbridge, selling nuts and bolts to local industries. Today FES has two depots – one in Caldicot and its head office in the Vale Business Park, Llandow.

FES is more than a nut and bolt stockist now, with a huge range of engineering consumables and tools.

FES now stocks major brands like Dewalt, Stanley, Bahco, Irwin, Draper, Abracs Abrasives, Alpen Drills, Starrett, HMT Holemaker Technology, Timco woodscrews, Everbuild, Action Can and an ever-expanding rage of welding wire and consumables as well as PPE and janitorial supplies.

To celebrate our one year anniversary at our new head office in Llandow, we welcome all customers old and new to join us at an open day.

We will be having lots of special offers, and there will be demonstrations from Dewalt, Timco, Draper and HMT.

There will be free bacon rolls, teas and coffee and a raffle to win a tool selection for all people attending.

Call in on Friday, March 23 to Unit 39D Vale Business Park, first turning after the Ford garage. **CS**

Open Day at People First

VALE People First active communities group is holding an open day at Barry Civic Offices in the Corporate Suite on Tuesday, March 20 from 10am – 2pm.

Information stalls from public services and professionals; disability awareness training; sandwiches/cakes/tea/coffee and a raffle.

The group is looking for new members. Come and join us and find out more. **AS**

Nearly New sale

A nearly-new sale will be held in the All Saints' Lesser Hall, Victoria Square, Penarth on Wednesday, March 21 from 2.15pm until 3.30pm. Entry 50p, (to include tea /coffee). Plenty of bargains, sizes small to 3XX for men and women. Come along and find yourself one. All proceeds to charity.

Rare sighting of village bus

I CLAIM my prize for being the first to get sight of the V5 village bus which has not been seen for years.

I spotted it the other day at the bottom of a cavernous pothole in the road into Penmark coming from the British Airways roundabout.

I can only speculate as to what lies in the many other such holes in the same road.

Sadly, despite using it daily for years, I have failed to spot a single cyclist using the cycle lanes on the same roundabout, so generously provided for them (at our expense) some years back.

Anthony Burke, Penmark.

Readers' Letters

Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or email editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

• Letters and e-mails MUST include your FULL address and a contact telephone number.

An email address alone is not sufficient!

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail.

'Thanks to Tanners Cardiff'

I WOULD just like to pass on my sincere thanks for the very kind loan of the Isuzu 4.4 vehicle that Mr Tanner of Isuszu Tanners Cardiff gave to St John Cymru-Wales during the recent inclement weather.

This vehicle was used to transport staff and volunteers to ensure they could travel from home to work safely.

Without this vehicle we would have been unable to provide assistance to the Welsh Ambulance Service or our local health boards.

It is lovely that companies like yours decide to support local charities in this way.

Once again, thank you very much.

Ashley Jones, St John Cymru-Wales.

'Helped after accident'

PLEASE express my heartfelt gratitude to all the wonderful people who came to help me when I had a sledging accident on Marine Drive hill in Barry, on Friday, March 2.

I had hit a tree head first and was briefly unconscious with severe back and chest pain.

Glenn, Andrew, Lars, Duncan and lots of others stayed with me, kept me warm then carried me to Gill and Rob's house on Heol y Bryn before an ambulance arrived.

Thank you to all those who helped giving their expertise, kindness, time and good spirits getting me through that painful time.

I am also very grateful to Ashley at Business Drive Wales – the only taxi service braving the snow ferrying patients and staff from The Heath hospital – for getting me home.

I am slowly recovering.

Sophie Conway, Barry.

PACT meetings

WHY not come along to Gibbonsdown 'Cuppa with a Copper' which is held every Monday morning at the Aberaeron HUB, Aberaeron Close, Barry, between 10am and 12 noon?

PENARTH police officers will be holding a 'drop in' session at Penarth police station on Thursday, March 22 between 4.30pm and 5.30pm.

LLANDOW/EWENNY coffee and chat will be held at the Lamb and Flag, St Brides, on Tuesday, March 20 at 11am.

If you have any issues that are affecting your quality of life but are unable to attend a meeting, contact 101 for non emergencies or log onto: www.south-wales.police.uk where you will find contact details for your local PCSO and you can contact them directly for non emergency matters.

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VALE MP's VIEWPOINT

Celebrating the key roles women play in our society

AMONGST many meetings in Barry and the Vale, on Brexit and many other topics, a highlight this week was a breakfast reception I held in Cardiff to celebrate International Women's Day.

It was a joint event I hosted with the hugely influential Chwarae Teg to recognise the key roles that women across Wales play in every part of our society – from industry, the public sector, our universities and the third sector.

It was fascinating to hear the inspiring stories from those that attended with remarkably distinguished careers – many at the reception spoke of witnessing at first-hand how practices once considered acceptable are now completely intolerable in the workplace and elsewhere.

It was also heartening to listen to how the attitudes of many students that attended the event are changing very quickly as they approach long and successful careers – both in terms of how the workplace can be transformed and how women in every sector are rightly challenging historic approaches and conventions in the workplace and life across Wales.

International Women's Day is a growing annual global event, the theme this year being #Pressforprogress. Progress is the watch word, unquestionably, as there is a very long way to go before we achieve equality for women in all aspects of our daily lives.

The UK Government is taking a number steps. This Government has introduced gender pay gap reporting requirements – meaning that large employers here in the Vale have to publish figures of gender pay, in doing so shining a light on any possible issues.

The introduction of Shared Parental Leave will allow parents to make decisions that work best for their families and encourage a flexible approach to careers and parenting.

The Government has also pledged to end violence against women at home and abroad by introducing tough new laws to protect women from domestic violence and forced marriage. These are all steps that I stand fully behind.

Vale MP Alun Cairns
Secretary of State for Wales reports to GEM readers

The event this week was an important reminder of the challenges that many women face on a daily basis. With pupils from schools and universities across south Wales in attendance hearing directly from business leaders and prominent women in Welsh public life, I am convinced that despite many challenges that still need to be overcome, we are on the right track in ensuring the 'glass ceiling' can be broken once and for all.

Recent months have shown how much more there is to do, but taking time to pause and reflect on what has been achieved in a short space of time with a great group of people was a real privilege for me to host.

I am keen to spread this message around the Vale, so I would be delighted to put constituents in touch with Chwarae Teg for future events locally.

One of the key partners undertaking hugely valuable work locally is Atal y Fro in Barry, a charitable organisation that has been providing services to women across the Vale for many years – it is my privilege that they will be one of the two charities, the other being NSPCC Cymru, I am running on behalf of in my seventh London Marathon next month.

That reminds me, I must get on some with training...

Eco commitee's 'Big School Clean'

THE Eco Committee at Llancarfan Primary School takes a huge interest in, and really cares for, their school and the local environment.

After having been postponed because of the snow, they were very pleased on March 12 to be able to take part in the Keep Wales Tidy 'Great Big School Clean'.

The Eco Committee invited the school's Gardening Club and community residents to join them on a litter pick around the village.

The children collected four large bags full and were really surprised to find such an amount, and an array, of rubbish which included a broken fishing net, a broken tennis racket and lots of plastic bottles.

CH

Take a trip back in time for new show

WOULD you like to take your family on a trip back in time for a new BBC series?

Wall to Wall Television, the makers of the hit series *Back in Time for Tea*, want to speak to families living in south Wales, who would like to take part in a new BBC series called *Factory Girls*.

They are offering modern Welsh families a once in a lifetime opportunity to immerse themselves in the day to day reality of life in the 60s,70s and 80s; what happened at work, what we were watching on telly and what food we were putting on the table.

For more information, email the team at: factorygirls@walltowall.co.uk or telephone: 029 20 329 145. Families must be UK residents with at least one child who is 15+.

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Readers' Letters

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• Letters and e-mails MUST include your FULL address and a contact telephone number.

An email address alone is not sufficient!

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO BRAVED THE WEATHER

I WOULD like to thank everyone who turned up in the recent spell of bad weather.

The help I received from CareMark, especially those who walked to me in hazardous conditions, was amazing, thank you so much.

I would also like to thank my neighbours, who brought me a hot meal, and those who ventured out to get me shopping. My thanks to you all for your kindness and generosity.

Kathleen Lougher, Bonvilston.

Remember when?

HOW many remember when Bruce Forsyth performed at the Stoneleigh nightclub in Porthcawl in the early 1970s, what a fabulous evening's entertainment it was, the wife and I had just started courting then and were absolutely enthralled by this irreplaceable personality.

On another occasion, who remembers when Roy Rogers, yes 'The King of the Cowboys', visited Crossways Hospital along with his horse Trigger in the '50s?

Jeff Warner, Llantrithyd.

The milkman of human kindness

AS one who finds old age makes it difficult to cope with extremely cold weather these days, I would like to place on record my thanks to my milkman from Jones Dairies in Barry.

He ensured I had my usual Friday milk delivery one day early by driving his milk float through blizzard conditions in the dark last Thursday night.

Hopefully, he was able to enjoy a lie-in on Friday as his reward.

Also, I am fortunate in having caring neighbours whe ensured I had a sufficient food supply.

Many thanks to all.

W Haydn Burgess, Barry.

Modern rail network fails in poor weather

BRITISH Rail recently cancelled trains on many parts of its services in anticipation of snow. In some areas, that snow didn't arrive.

What will they do next – shut the system down in the autumn on the assumption falling leaves will cause disruption?

Back in the winters of 1947 and 1963, the so-called 'Big Freeze' arrived in the UK. One of the coldest on record, the snow drifts reached 20ft in some places and wind speeds of 81mph. There were news reports of a car driven over the river in Oxford as rivers and lakes froze.

At the time, my journey to Cardiff's Canton locomotive shed normally took 20 minutes on my motorcycle. In these conditions, it took one hour to arrive in work.

Canton shed was a hive of activity, with the priority keeping the all-important water supply from freezing. This was done by coal-fired stoves with large chimneys, situated under the water cranes. These supplied up to 4,000 gallons to the loco tenders.

Small stoves under the injector pipes kept them clear for the day to enable the fireman to put water in the engine boiler.

With more manpower available at the time, problems on the main lines could be sorted manually, plus snow ploughs attached to steam locos provided a strong back up.

In those days, signal boxes were manned every few miles and if a signal were to break, the signalman would lean out of the window with a green flag to keep things moving.

Nowadays, if a green signal fails out in the wilderness, everything is electrically linked and as we have seen, causing chaos to passengers.

So much for modernisations.

Tony Nicholas, Barry.

'Kindness shown by neighbours'

LIKE the couple from the village of Monknash, we would like to endorse the kindness and hard work our farming neighbours showed us during the recent snow drifts.

We live in Broughton next door to Monknash – I had to attend an appointment at the hospital for cancer check-up on Monday, and had it not been for the kind farmer and his son who cleared our lane, I wouldn't have been able to attend this appointment.

Thank you so much to all the farmers who go the extra mile to help the local community.

The council should compensate the farmers who work hard during these difficult times.

(Name and address supplied.)

Grateful thanks to all who assisted

I WOULD like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all the wonderful people who came to help me when I had a sledging accident on Marine Drive hill in Barry on Friday, March 2.

I hit a tree head first and was briefly unconscious with severe back and chest pain.

Glenn, Andrew, Lars, Duncan and lots of others stayed with me, kept me warm then carried me to Gill and Rob's house on Heol y Bryn before an ambulance arrived.

Thank you to all those who helped giving their expertise, kindness, time and good spirits getting me through that painful time.

I am also very grateful to Ashley at Business Drive Wales, who was the only taxi service braving the snow ferrying patients and staff from the Heath hospital for getting me home. I am slowly recovering.

Sophie Conway, Barry.

'Keeping Barry clean is a shared responsibility'

IT is good news that the Barry Town Council will begin a campaign this month for a spring clean in the town.

More power to their elbows, but it would be even better news if the Vale Council indicated support by cleaning our bus shelters, some of which have been sprayed with graffiti – not just for months, but in some cases years – like my local at Williams' Stores.

It may be a good idea to involve our schools, maybe a competition along the lines of 'bin the graffiti'.

Our parks are a credit to the town and wonders have been done on the Island, but many of our old folk would welcome some seats on King Square, and outside the bus stops.

Nevertheless, Barry is a good place to live and I think we all have a part to play in keeping it clean.

David Lloyd, Barry.

REINVENTING THE CONSERVATORY ROOF REPLACEMENT & CONSERVATORY UPGRADE OPTIONS

As few as five years ago, polycarbonate would have been the main choice for a conservatory roof.

While letting plenty of light in, some found that their conservatories could be too bright in summer, while cool in winter.

Building technology has moved on, and there are now two solid roofs that can convert a conservatory

The first is a lightweight, 'tiled' roof that takes its design cues from the slates and tiles found on most UK houses.

Created using aluminium panels, with Kingspan insulation, these conservatory roofs can achieve a u value of just 0.16, similar to that of a normally constructed, modern roof.

With this roof option, the interior of the conservatory can include a plastered ceiling with down-lighters or even roof windows for ventilation and sky views.

For a more contemporary feel, the LivinRoof combines sleek lines and thermal efficiency to create something that looks very contemporary.

With the LivinRoof, entire panels can be glazed to create a hybrid solid and glass roof allowing you to choose where to have shaded areas and where to have more light.

Either of these roofs can be retrofitted to an existing structure, to make your conservatory more comfortable in the height of summer and depths of winter.

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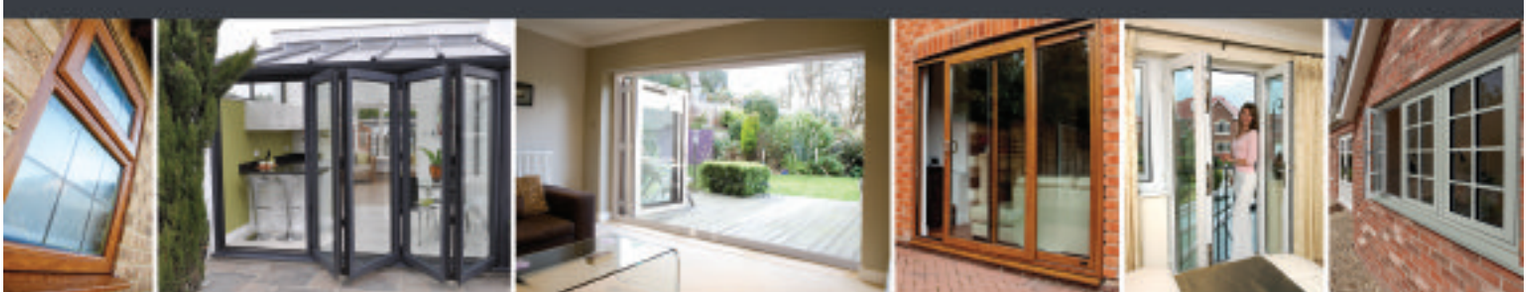

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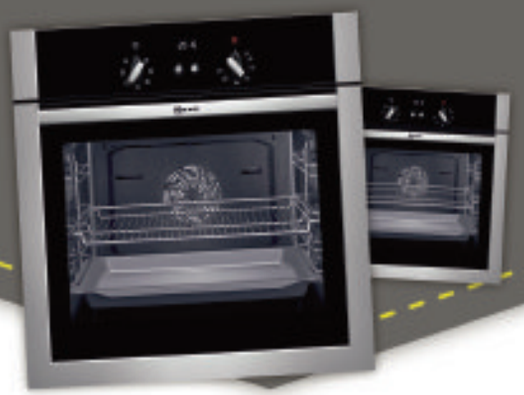

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'Help Me Quit' campaign launched

FROM March 12, pharmacies across Wales will be running the NHS stop smoking campaign Help Me Quit in support of National No Smoking Day, which was on March 14.

Community pharmacists and their staff have been asked by NHS Wales to talk to their customers about smoking and help signpost them to free stop smoking support.

Smoking is the greatest risk factor for the burden of disease and continues to be the largest single cause of ill health and avoidable death in Wales. It causes approximately 5,450 deaths and costs the Welsh NHS an estimated £302 million each year.

Over recent years overall smoking prevalence has fallen to 19 per cent in Wales, with rates being much higher in the most deprived areas. Welsh Government has set a target of reducing smoking prevalence to below 16 per cent by 2020.

Kate Thomas, owner of Sylvia Williams Chemist.

National surveys indicate that 68 per cent of smokers would like to stop smoking and 41 per cent have tried to quit in the past year. Evidence suggests that smokers are four times more likely to quit successfully by using a combination of licensed stop smoking medication and behavioural support in comparison to quitting unaided.

There are a number of Help Me Quit services across Wales. Clients can receive support with a 'stop smoking expert' in one to one sessions face to face, or over the telephone, or by quitting with other smokers.

Community pharmacists and their staff can help you access these services. Call in for advice or contact Help Me Quit directly on 0800 085 2219; www.helpmequit.wales or text HMQ to 80818.

Kate Thomas, Sylvia Williams Chemist

Vale Photographic Club in competition

LAST month we had a varied programme and still have more to come this month.

We started off with a break from photography and enjoyed our annual club dinner in Cowbridge. Great food, wine and company – what more could anyone ask for?

Back to the photographic grindstone and the following week was our annual seven-way battle with six other clubs.

Although we call it a battle it's all very friendly and we welcome our friends from neighbouring clubs to an evening of great pictures.

All clubs put forward their best work so the quality of images was stunning. The judge, Brian Swinyard from Worcester, awarded more 20s (the highest mark possible) than we've ever known before so the scoring was incredibly close.

The winning club by a margin of two points was Rhondda Camera Club with six '20s'. We managed four '20s' and came in third, just four points behind them.

The following week we had a presentation from the ex-Cardiff-based explorer and adventurer Ade Summers.

He travels to some of the wildest parts of the world to meet the local inhabitants and find out how they live. He described the Wakhi and Kyrgys, nomadic people of the Wakhan Corridor in one of the remotest parts of Afghanistan and in particular their game of buzhkashi, played on horseback and involving a headless goat.

Admittedly a bit grim but it's an ancient custom which helps maintain friendly relations with neighbouring groups.

The rules – well there don't seem to be any but the elders somehow manage to keep some kind of score and award 'ribbons' to successful riders.

Our fourth monthly competition took place the following week with another record number of entries.

Yes, it's a competition but it's a friendly event. It's an opportunity to see the work of fellow members and talk about what was involved in creating the image.

Sometimes they are virtually straight out of camera but more often than not a few tweaks and adjustments are involved and members willingly share their techniques.

More information about our club, where we meet and the programme for the rest of the year can be found on our website: *www.vale-photographic-club.co.uk*. There is always a warm welcome for new members. **TV**

Got a story? Then get in touch with us - email editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk or call 01446 774484

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See more on pages 22 and 23! More than meets the eye!

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No family or friends to attend funeral of former Merchant Seaman - *will you?*

THE funeral takes place next Wednesday (March 21) of former merchant seaman, Leonard Fellows, who has died aged 82.

In itself, this is not news.

However, Mr Fellows, who lived for the final few months of his long life at the Bellavista Nursing Home in Barry, has no known family – aside from a 92-year-old sister in Australia – and no known friends.

At the moment, according to Park Funeral Directors, which contacted The GEM, the only people attending the funeral will be his social worker and a representative of SSAFA (formerly Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association).

A spokesperson for Park Funerals said: "Leonard came from a seafaring family and lost one of his brothers at sea many years ago.

"Perhaps an appeal might attract the interest and attendance of the RNLI, and other marine organisations, and even allow Leonard's ashes to be scattered at sea, with assistance from one of these organisations?" suggested the spokesperson.

Mr Fellows' funeral takes place on Wednesday, March 21 at 3pm at the Cardiff and Vale Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry, CF62 9PX.

The GEM understands that any individual or representatives from maritime, Forces', or other organisations, will be welcome to attend.

Fonmon Apiary in March

THE apiary has suffered the loss of three colonies over the winter months; it is not at all unusual to experience losses.

All colonies have ample stores and were treated to reduce the numbers of the varroa mite population.

Low temperatures are not usually a problem for a colony in winter because the bees can keep the internal temperature under their control at all times. However, this control is dependent on there being sufficient healthy bees to form their winter cluster.

What factors could have kicked in to cause the demise of a colony? Well the varroa mite is certainly a prime candidate with its ability to infect a bee with a variety of viruses, for one.

Another would be lack of stores, i.e food – but in this case that is not an issue.

Nosema is another possibility and this is an internal infection of a bee's mid-gut; it reproduces in the cells that form the lining of the gut and this reproduction process requires a food source. When a bee consumes honey the Nosema extracts a share of this intake and this leads to the bee constantly being undernourished.

So the undernourished bee is not best fitted to assist in the temperature control of a hive.

Could the onset of the sub-zero temperatures that we have experienced just lately be another candidate? It certainly bears thinking about. With sick bees leading to lack of temperature control the Nosema is in its element – the Nosema thrives in low temperatures. The cold weather then kicked in and the sub-zero conditions will certainly have to be considered as the final nail in the coffin.

Throughout the winter months I have had trays underneath the floors of the hives, floors that are of a mesh construction that allows a variety of debris to fall through; as long as debris is visible in the trays it conveys information as to what is happening inside the hive.

The three colonies that have died out showed no floor debris in their trays since February, a sure sign that all was not well. When other colonies had bees venturing out, nothing stirred from the three colonies in question.

I will eventually open up these three colonies and will examine some of the dead bees to see if I can identify the cause of death. All three hives are heavy, so a shortage of stores can be ruled out straightaway.

Nine colonies went into the winter and they are now reduced by three.

There were sufficient bees in each colony, plenty of stores and all had been treated to reduce the varroa mite numbers – and so should the beekeeper look to the methods currently in use regarding bee health?

Harold Williams

Body found in search for missing Barry man

SOUTH Wales Police announced late on March 13 that a body has been found on the mountainside above Merthyr Tydfil.

A force spokesperson said: "Although it still needs to be officially identified, the family of Maldwyn Miles has been informed.

"Thank you for all your help with our appeals," concluded the spokesperson.

HENSOL CASTLE WINS AWARD

HENSOL Castle in the Vale has been named 'Romantic Venue of the Year' at the Welsh Wedding Awards 2018.

The four-star venue within the estate of the Vale Resort, beat off stiff competition from nine other Welsh venues at the award ceremony held at the Exchange Hotel in Cardiff.

Stephanie Metson, marketing manager at the Vale Resort, said: "Hensol Castle is a truly unique venue that newlyweds have described as 'breathtaking', largely because it embraces everything that a fairytale wedding should be.

"Its gothic towers, majestic turrets and hand-painted vaulted ceilings set the tone for an unforgettable wedding.

"Winning the accolade of 'Romantic Venue of the Year' at the Welsh Wedding Awards is an outstanding achievement and a testament to the hard work of our staff across Hensol Castle and the Vale Resort."

AS

HandyVan can keep your home warmer and safer

Sean Overbury.

THE older people's charity Age Cymru is this month launching its HandyVan service for older people across the Vale.

The service, which is already operating in Cardiff and Penarth, will help older people keep their homes warmer and safer.

Delivered by the experienced handyman Sean Overbury, the service can install safety measures such as smoke alarms, carbon monoxide detectors and grab rails to help improve quality of life, maintain independence and boost the confidence of older people in the area.

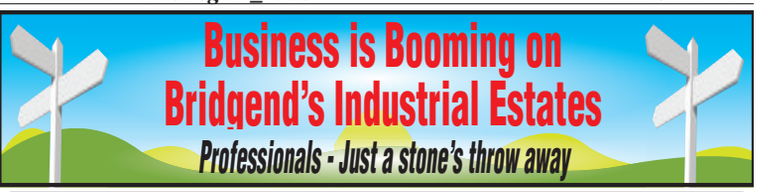
Improving energy efficiency in the home forms an important part of the service and by installing draught excluders around doors and windows, cold alarms and radiator reflector panels around the home, older people can make substantial savings on their fuel bills.

The service can also undertake small repairs such as putting up curtain rails, replacing faulty light bulbs and tacking down loose carpets.

While some of the services may incur a small cost, most of the energy efficiency work is free of charge.

For more information call the charity on 029 2043 1555, email handyvan@agecymru.org.uk or visit www.agecymru.org.uk/handyvan.

CS



It pays to check out what your local industrial estate can offer

MEMBERS of the public can sometimes get into a little bit of a rut, when it comes to buying the household goods that they need.

The natural first thought is the high street, or something with the word 'retail' in it – a retail park, perhaps.

Of course, those who know better are well aware that many of the best suppliers are not so visible – and are to be found on industrial estates.

It's all a question of image, of course, and on any industrial estate there will be a number of manufacturing outlets and distribution outlets that do not sell to the retail customer.

For instance, the Bridgend Industrial Estate describes itself as 'a large mixed use development comprising a number of large stand-alone industrial facilities, smaller estates, offices, development plots and a 'retail quarter'.'

'In total the estate extends to an estimated 3 million sq ft of commercial accommodation on approximately 300 acres.'

However, that only tells half the story, because so many of the businesses on the estate welcome retail customers, and more and more people are becoming aware of this.

It is worth remembering that one reason companies choose the Bridgend Industrial Estate is because of its location, close to the M4.

It means that it attracts retail customers from as far afield as Carmarthen in the west, and Newport in the east – customers who value the quality and price offered by companies who have set up there.

It is slightly ironic to think that clued-in customers will travel from a distance to get a good deal on items that they need, while local people may be unaware of what is on offer.

That is why it is well worth taking a good look at your local industrial estate.

You may well find exactly what you need today there – and probably what you will need tomorrow too!

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At the factory and head office at Bridgend Industrial Estate, our sales and garage door servicing team are on hand to offer friendly, impartial advice on replacement garage doors and on any new build installations.

Keeping a large stock of spares for all major garage and industrial door manufacturers is something that Action Doors regards as very important.

The company specialises in electric garage doors and offers realistic prices for electric conversions.

They also manufacture roller shutter doors and, with the introduction of their own in-house forming mill, they can provide a same day repair service for most impact damaged doors.

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AS we are approaching our third year of trading in Bridgend, we have decided to change a few things around in our showroom.

Within the next few weeks, we'll be adding to our portfolio, and bringing some of the newest and best fires and fireplaces to the area.

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From Dik Guerts to Docherty, Cast Tec to Valor and Gazco to Dimplex, we have something to add grace, style, and above all, warmth to your home.

We believe that having a great range of fires on display in our showroom really helps inspire customers to making the right choice when choosing what appliance they want to have in their homes.

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Getting the best deal to maintain modern cars

MARCH is traditionally the most popular month for servicing the car, and, of course, if your car is three years old and a March registration, it's time for the first MOT test.

Gone are the days where you could pop the bonnet on your driveway and do a quick oil change on a sunny day.

Modern vehicles have all sorts of wonderful complexities to consider like digital oil level readings (no dipstick) and online service records to be updated.

Cars now have more and more electronic components and extensive electrical systems. When these develop faults it's usually only the franchised main dealer or an independent specialist that will be able to resolve the problem.

There are lots of so-called 'specialists' that have questionable expertise or are seriously lacking in tooling and technical data, for example ones that don't have the key reader to obtain the service data and update the online service record.

This is where goodwill becomes important.

A genuine specialist with all the equipment and expertise will be popular and generally rather busy, so when a problem develops and you need some help urgently, it definitely counts if you're a valued servicing customer.

To get the best deal to maintain modern cars you need to build a relationship with a proper independent specialist that offers the complete picture.

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Software Update	£95
BMW Diagnostic Scan	£55

BMW Mini	
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Out & About with The GEM

Join The Addams Family at Barry Memorial Hall

FEATURING a full cast of 35 talented, local, young actors, *The Addams Family* – a new musical – bursts to life in the Memo Arts Centre, Barry this April – it's going to be a special treat for all the family.

This kooky musical features an original story, and it's every father's nightmare.

Wednesday Addams has grown up and fallen in love with a sweet young man, Lucas, from a respectable family. She confides in her father and begs him not to tell her mother.

Now, Gomez Addams must do something he's never done before — keep a secret from his beloved wife, Morticia. Everything will change for the whole family on the fateful night they host a dinner for Wednesday's 'normal' boyfriend and his parents.

Taking on the leads of Gomez and Morticia Addams are Rhodri Lewis (18) and Tia Huggins (17), who say that *The Addams Family* is an alternative and different musical, but still very much a family friendly show.

Kelsi Hughes (15) and Ioan Jones (17) play the parts of Wednesday and Lucas, and one of the youngest cast members Logan Burrows (11) (*Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* UK tour and *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* UK tour) who plays Pugsley Addams.

Further cast members include Megan White (17) as Grandma, Ross Neale (15) as Lurch, Tyler Shier (17) as Uncle Fester, Lloyd Williams (15) as Mal Beineke and Hayley Matter (15) as Alice Beineke; plus a super-talented ensemble.

Directed by Christian Bullen, musically directed by Christopher Fossey, and brought to you by Superstars in the Making and the Memo Arts Centre, the team that produced *Fame!*, *Grease*, *Hairspray* and *West Side Story*, this is set to be another hit!

The Addams Family is at the Memo Arts Centre on Friday, April 20-21. Call the box office on 01446 738622 for further details and tickets, or book tickets online at www.memoartscentre.co.uk.

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You Were Never Really Here is a 'slow-burning, yet brutally compelling piece of work'

WHETHER the film he's in is good or bad, Joaquin Phoenix is undoubtedly one of the most watchable actors working today.

His latest film, *You Were Never Really Here*, sees him team up with *We Need To Talk About Kevin* director Lynne Ramsay, who has also written the script, adapting Jonathan Ames' book.

Phoenix plays Joe, a traumatised army veteran and ex-FBI agent who specialises in tracking down underage kidnapped girls. However, when a job to retrieve a senator's daughter named Nina (Ekaterina Samsonov) goes awry, Joe begins to lose sense of what is real and what is not real, and events soon spiral out of control in dark and disturbing ways...

You could quite comfortably imagine in a parallel world that *You Were Never Really Here* would be a blockbusting action movie, full of gunfights, car chases and action-packed fist fights.

Thankfully we don't live in this parallel world, so *You Were Never Really Here* becomes a woozy fever dream of a film, a work that places mood and atmospherics in the driving seat and makes for a slow-burning, but brutally compelling, effort.

Lynne Ramsay is a director who likes to dig below the surface of her characters, and this film is no different, but rather than deal with bags of exposition she keeps things direct and to the point. For example, we know Joe is traumatised not because of copious flashbacks but through brief, powerful callbacks that tell you all you need to know about the character, a man who is as happy helping his elderly mother as he is brutally attacking those who have done wrong.

There is something of a vigilante element to Joe, and the New York setting consciously or unconsciously calls to mind that other Big Apple troubled vigilante Travis Bickle, but Joe is a man on the side of the angels and determined to do the right thing.

This is a film that isn't afraid to show violence but Ramsay's direction in economical, showing the ramifications but holding back on the actual act. There is a scene where Joe makes his way through a house full of underage girls shot wholly via security cameras which is so much more chilling and immediate than a cleverly-orchestrated action sequence, flashes of Joe wielding his weapon of choice (a hammer which, we learn through those economic flashes, is used for a reason) soundtracked to a lilting 1960s song.

Ramsay also shows small moments of tenderness to counterpoint this, predominantly in the relationship with Joe and his mother, but also later on as his rescue of Nina gives way to the second half of the film, a bond developing between the two of them.

The soundtrack, by Radiohead's Jonny Greenwood (composer of choice for Paul Thomas Anderson) adds to the off-kilter feel of the film, full of discordant textures and sounds that are seemingly designed to keep you on edge and complement Ramsay's visuals perfectly.

Joaquin Phoenix's performance is a breathtaking one, full of internal rage and fire that, when it comes out, is terrifying to witness. You get the impression he has fallen into this particular line of work purely as a means to exercise his violent tendencies rather than through any great moral compass, but there is good in the character and Phoenix nails the complexities of him with an astounding turn.

by GARETH JAMIESON
Follow Screen Talk on Twitter – @GEMScreenTalk

Ekaterina Samsonov, as Nina, the young girl whose rescue starts events unspooling for the worse, is superb; detached and understandably brimming with emotion, the fleeting moments between her and Phoenix are excellent, and the young actor's performance, even briefly, is captivating.

This certainly won't be a film to suit all tastes; this is a work that puts the emphasis on minimalism, on small moments rather than grandstanding ones, but it's a film that makes you wish Ramsay was more prolific behind the camera.

In *Ratcatcher*, *Morvern Callar* and *We Need To Talk About Kevin*, she has already assembled a mightily impressive body of work and *You Were Never Really Here* is a fine addition to her CV, a film that will linger and resonate.

VERDICT: Hugely compelling, *You Were Never Really Here* is a harsh and uncompromising film that delivers mesmeric performances from the central turns of Joaquin Phoenix and Ekaterina Samsonov. Lynne Ramsay's direction is atmospheric and economical, and coupled with Jonny Greenwood's soundtrack, creates a beguiling assault on the senses that leaves its mark. *Essential viewing*.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Drive* (2011), *We Need To Talk About Kevin* (2011).

Annual banquet raises funds for students

THE annual Atlantic Banquet takes place at St Donat's Castle on April 7 at 7pm this year.

An annual event run by students of Atlantic College, the purpose of the banquet is to raise funds to sponsor students to come to the school, who wouldn't otherwise be able.

Throughout the night, students will deliver a four-course meal, display their culture with various performances and have a silent auction with a raffle to raise money for student entries for the upcoming years.

Your contributions could help a student gain access to education and reach their goal of being able to work towards peace and a sustainable future. Without the opportunities of Atlantic College and UWC, it is possible that they might never be able to leave their home country.

Please invite your friends, and join in a night of performances, auctions and sumptuous food. Book online at on atlanticcollege.org. Places are limited, so admittance will be first come, first served.

WHAT'S ON AND WHERE?

Cowbridge Art Society

ON Thursday, March 15 there will be a demonstration of 'Painting the Sea in Acrylics' by Welsh artist Vernon Jones (vernonwjones.co.uk).

Vernon's work has been described as 'hyper-realist' and is almost photographic in its effect. He has been exhibited in various countries throughout Europe particularly Macedonia, where he spends some of his time.

On Thursday, March 22 we will hold an assisted workshop led by CAS member Jac Harries, where members will be encouraged to produce spontaneous figures, which will involve some drawing without a pencil. This promises to be another interesting evening which will be both informative and entertaining

We meet on Thursday evenings at the Old Hall, Cowbridge (7pm – 9 pm) and occasional visitors and new members are most welcome. For details of the society's programme and activities collect a programme from the Old Hall, or see www.cowbridgeartsociety.com and www.facebook.com/cowbridgeart.cas

Llantwit School PTA

LLANTWIT Major School PTA are hosting their annual Pamper and Prosecco Evening at the Comp on Friday, March 16 from 6.30pm – 9.30pm.

Tickets are £5 and include a glass of Prosecco on entry and entry into a free prize draw for a pamper hamper. There will be five pamper providers, 12 gift stalls, teas, coffees, cakes and a bar.

The profit will go back into the school to benefit all pupils in all areas of the curriculum. Tickets are available in advance from Sunkissed, The Hair Studio or the school front desk but will also be available on the door.

Country market

COWBRIDGE Country Market re-opens for 2018 on Friday, March 16. There will be lots of new season marmalade, all our usual freshly baked goodies as well as Billy's delicious sourdough breads – don't forget to stock up for the Easter weekend!

The market is held on the first and third Fridays of each month in the Lesser Hall from 9.30am.

Messy Church

COME to Messy Church this Sunday, March 18 in the Reading Room, Bonvilston (opposite Old Village Shop at 2.30pm to 4pm.

A warm welcome is extended to youngsters and toddlers (with their parents); activities for all the family, losts of crafty things to make, a Bible story, a bit of singing and plenty of refreshments.

Why not give it a go? Further information from Rev Lee Dutfield on 07784 869020, Canon Martyn Davies on 01446 760498 or Ann Roach on 01446 781309.

NEST energy advice

IF you want free and impartial advice on cutting your energy bills, come and find out if you are eligible for a home improvement grant through the Welsh Government NEST programme.

You can chat to an adviser from the NEST Scheme at Age Connects Cardiff and Vale Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry on Tuesday, March 20; no appointment needed. Call 01446 732385 for further information; or to arrange a home visit call 08088 082244.

Care and Repair

IF you are you a home owner or private tenant living in the Vale; elderly or disabled and in need of advice and support on repairs in your home or home improvements, Care and Repair in the Vale can give advice on grants available and reputable companies to use.

Age Connects Cardiff and Vale are holding an information session on Tuesday, March 20 at the Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry from 10am to 12pm. No appointment is needed; call 01446 732385 for further information.

Valeways guided walks

ON Wednesday, March 21 at 10am Coetir Casehill Woodlands walk; meet at Eglwys St Peter, Mill Road, Dinas Powys.

The Coffee Shop Strollers of Barry meet at 10.30am on March 21 at the Bridge Cage car park, Cold Knap in Barry.

The Coffee Shop Strollers of Cowbridge meet the same day at 2.30pm at the Physic Garden fountain in Cowbridge.

National Trust volunteers

THE next meeting of the Vale of Glamorgan NT Association will be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday, March 21 in The Duke of Wellington in Cowbridge.

Our speaker is Gwerfyl Gardner and her talk is entitled 'The Slate Barons of North Wales'. The spring newsletter should be available for distribution to members. New members are always welcome, enquiries to *vofgant@gmail.com*.

Sites of interest, and tragedy, for walking group

IT was a bitterly cold but dry morning when eight Valeways walkers joined leader John at the 17th-Century Carne Arms ready for a seven-mile walk.

Setting off, they noticed the damaged mile post at the car park exit. The mile post shows that it is six miles to Pencoed station. Builders were already carrying out the repair.

They walked up the lane towards The Grange before going uphill, through a field of broad beans, in the direction of Nash Manor. Crossing grassy fields, the group quite quickly reached Wilton Farm.

Here they walked along the quiet lane for about half a mile before turning onto the Valeways Millennium Heritage Trail. This is a 100 km circular walk around the Vale (for more information see www.valeways.org.uk/page.php?page=31&lang=1).

This part of the trail passes close to the site of the aircraft crash on March 12, 1950, when a plane carrying Welsh rugby fans home from Ireland crashed as it approached Llandow airfield killing 80 passengers.

There is a memorial by the side of the road in Sigingstone.

The trail also crosses the site of the Siginstone airfield and parts of the runways are still visible, and the walkers crossed these on the way to the green lane leading down into Llanblethian and the ford by the wool factory.

The sun was now out and shining brightly as the walkers took advantage of the seat here for a coffee stop.

Refreshed and rested, they set off again passing the wool factory workers cottages with the pretty gardens full of hellebores in full flower, to head over several stiles and up Factory Brook to return eventually to the road which led back to Llsyworney and the pub.

Many thanks to the staff at the Carne Arms for the use of the car park and for their hospitality.

John Treby
Valeways

Coffee by the wool factory.

EASTER IN CADOXTON

CADOXTON Youth Project and Communities First are inviting you to this year's Easter event at Victoria Park on March 30, Good Friday.

The event will run from 11am-2pm; there will be colouring and drawing competitions along with other activities for the kids, as well as a raffle draw, sporting activities and so on.

The organisers will be at the park for 10am to set up for the event before the start and if anyone wishes to help out, it'll be greatly appreciated.

YE GODS, IT'S ZEUS!

ZEUS is an energetic four-year-old Husky Cross.

He enjoys playing with his toys and having plenty of off-lead exercise. Zeus will need to continue with his training to build up his social skills with other dogs.

He is not used to being left alone, so new owners would need to work on gradually building this up.

Zeus is looking for an active home where he will get of physical and mental stimulation, and training classes would help with this as he is eager to learn.

Zeus is house trained and travels well in the car. He can live with children 11 years old and above who are used to dogs.

Zeus will make a lovely addition to an active family home, but not one with cats or other small animals.

For more information on Zeus, please visit the Dogs Trust Rehoming Centre in Bridgend, CF31 4NG; telephone 01656 725219; or visit www.dogstrust.org.uk.

Dead badger survey continues

NFU Cymru is urging its members and the public to take part in the Welsh Government Badger Found Dead Survey, which continues to be in operation across Wales.

The call comes after the most recent published figures by Welsh Government show that 725 of badgers found dead were tested in Wales, in the period September 2014 to August 2017.

This survey is important so that an accurate picture of the disease in wildlife across Wales is built up.

In a joint statement, Wyn Evans, NFU Cymru Livestock Board Chairman and Gareth Richards NFU Cymru Milk Board Chairman said: "Surveillance is essential in any disease control programme and bovine TB is no different.

Bovine TB continues to cause heartache for farming families across Wales therefore we strongly encourage our members and the general public to participate in this survey to help build up an accurate picture of the disease in Wales.

"It is important to build up a picture of where diseased wildlife are playing a part in the transmission of this disease and also crucially where wildlife are healthy and therefore not implicated in cattle herd breakdowns.

"The Wales Veterinary Science Centre in Aberystwyth has been commissioned by Welsh Government to test for TB in badgers found dead. Those who find an intact badger carcass are urged to participate in the survey by reporting the location on 08081 695110.

"Ideally, a six figure grid reference is required and there are apps that can be used to obtain this, for example, OS maps. Alternatively a road name or number can be phoned in, but it would also be useful to state on which side of the road it was and to note any significant landmarks nearby."

NFU Cymru continues to lobby government and key decision makers about the importance of eradicating this disease from Wales through the implementation of a comprehensive programme of measures in Wales. **FG**

New venue for Rhoose festival

Image by Chilled Photography.

RHOOSE Summer Music 2018 will be held at Milburn Park on July 7, 2018.

A festival spokesman told The GEM: "After selling out at its previous venue on the grounds of Rhoose Social Club we took the decision to look for a new venue.

"This led to months of talks with potential sites and with us eventually securing the permission and premises licence to hold Rhoose Summer Music at Milburn Park, allowing us to grow the festival.

"This year will mark our biggest festival with a line-up featuring Brother Steve – Pop/Rock; Jumpin' Jimmy and the Nice Guys – Motown/Soul; Too Toned – Ska; Cherry Beats – 50's/60's Rock n' Roll; and Jack Ellis – Rock.

"There will be support from The Scoundrels, Davey Sheppard and Ben Elliott

"We have also increased the number of food vendors this year and have also introduced a festival glitter face painter."

Earlybird tickets are priced at £12.50 until the end of April. The ticket price will increase to £15 from May 1. For ticket information, go to: www.rhoosesummer.co.uk.

Keep an eye out in The GEM for more details on the festival in the coming months. **RS**

Sully U3A learns about 'Vale for Africa'

ON March 8 Sully U3A were entertained by Ted Arbuthnot about the charity Vale for Africa, which works with TOCIDA in the Tororo district of Uganda, Africa to improve healthcare, education and library services through fostering community.

Vale for Africa is a member of the groundbreaking Wales for Africa programme of more than 100 charities that work to achieve the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.

The diverse range of projects the charity focuses on include education, health and skills in Uganda, which include eye care, classroom blocks, motorcycle ambulances, student scholarship programme, library, waterpipe and the SAFE Foundation.

With regard to eye care it is not often understood that the major cause of visual impairment is simply the lack of appropriate glasses; however serious eye diseases are encountered too, like cataracts, glaucoma and trachoma, but all of these conditions are treatable and vision can be restored if only the people who need it can be identified.

There is very little infrastructure in the form of primary care in the very populated rural areas, and eye testing is carried out where many cases of blindness and visual impairment that could have been prevented, or where sight could be restored, and the volunteers arrange for glasses, surgery or medication to be provided as required.

Also the volunteers train members of the village health teams to perform their own basic sight tests in their villages, and supply them with the basic equipment to do that.

This way, the work is carried out throughout the year, not just on the volunteers' one week visits, which are self-funded, so donations will go directly to improving someones vision.

The volunteers are currently helping the building of new classroom blocks to enable more children to get an education in the district, assisting financially and also with the construction of the buildings.

Vale for Africa has obtained funding for the purchase of three motorcycle ambulances for the Tororo district of Uganda.

As there is no primary health care available to people in rural areas, very ill people have to be able to get to hospital to receive treatment.

This is particularly important for women in labour experiencing difficulties, which threaten the life of the mother and the baby. So the motorcycle ambulances are invaluable for supporting the local people in rural areas.

The Vale for Africa Scholarship enables a student from the Tororo District to come to Wales for two years, to study at the world renowned Atlantic College, St Donats, which is one of only 14 colleges in the world forming the United World College movement, and students from 30 countries take part in the two year programme.

Improving literacy and wellbeing among children of Tororo is one of the volunteers much important priorities, and since 2010 they have supported a community library which was founded by the Ugandan partners, TOCIDA.

The volunteers have provided books and funding to support the librarian and his assistant, and as a result local people now have access to learning materials and a place to study and now over 1,000 people are registered to use the library.

Pomade Primary School in the Tororo District has 1,300 pupils, and every day before school starts some of the young girls walk to a well two kilometres from the school to fill pitchers with water and carry them back to the school.

However, thanks to Cowbridge Rotary, this situation will soon be improved, as they are funding the construction of a pipe which will carry water to the school.

Each year The SAFE Foundation supports a group of particularly vulnerable children with a package to enable them to attend mainstream school, which includes educational materials, uniforms, medicines and health care as well as transport and other specialist equipment.

A further group of children are given the opportunity to join a small enterprise to generate a livelihood from the beautiful crafts and homeware they make.

The craftmakers are supported with start up grants for materials and once the goods have been made the volunteers import them to the UK and sell them at all sorts of events and online.

Members of the Sully U3A felt this is a very worthwhile charity which benefits the children of the district of Tororo in Uganda, and if anybody wishes to make a donation they can go to their website, www.valeofafrica.org.uk, for details.

Our next presentation is on April 12 at the Old School in Sully and we look forward to seeing you then.

MIKE BIRNAGE

ART GROUP 'FLASHMOB' HOLDS PROTEST IN BARRY

The flashmob in full swing.

A 'FLASHMOB' protest took place in Kings Square, Barry on March 10.

A group of three protesters had starting a flashmob. Another 20 singers, saxophonists, flautists and protesters joined in, singing 'Hey Aviva – Leave our air alone'.

A spokesperson said: "If you would also like Aviva to 'leave our air alone', join AABI – Art Against The Barry Incinerator – at the Park Hotel, Park Crescent, CF62 6HE on Saturday, March 17 for a meeting to discuss further actions.

AS

Vale MP attends coffee morning

A COFFEE morning in aid of Dinas Powys Library Development Fund sponsored by the Women's Institute project in Guatemala took place on February 24, at Dinas Powys Community Centre.

Amusingly, the ladies made local MP Alun Cairns buy a Boris Johnson book; Alun hopes to get it signed and will donate it back to the WI.

Kay Rowlands

All Saints School Estyn report 'good to excellent'

IN December last year, a 2017 Estyn report stated that nearly all pupils enjoyed going to All Saints CIW Primary School in Barry, and demonstrated outstanding attitudes to learning. It also read that the school places a very strong emphasis on developing its pupils' personal and social education.

A spokesperson writes: "The school was judged as good in leadership and management, teaching and learning experiences and standards. The school's wellbeing and attitudes to learning and care, support and guidance were hailed as excellent.

"The school leaders were described as providing strong and effective leadership and the teachers and inspectors reported that the supporting members of staff were highly motivated and passionate about improving pupils' learning.

"The report read that most pupils in key stage 2 contribute effectively in lessons, often giving extended answers to questions and making relevant contributions to classroom discussions.

"Once the pupils have reached year 6, most are articulate and offer thought-provoking opinions, for example when discussing gender stereotyping.

"Recommendations for the school included improving standards of pupils' oral skills in Welsh outside Welsh lessons in key stage 2 and improving pupils' experience at playtimes and lunchtimes, so that they have more opportunities to make purposeful use of their time in the outdoor environment."

Atlantic College returns to its nautical roots with help of Rolls-Royce

A GROUP of students at Atlantic College have been working with Rolls-Royce engineers to lay the foundations for a collaborative project which aims to design and develop new technologies that could save lives at sea.

Seven students at the college have been developing their ideas for new marine technologies, such as scouting drones, which could aid the search and rescue process at sea, alongside three of Rolls-Royce's most experienced marine specialists.

The ideas were born from the students' personal experiences of working on the rigid hull inflatable boat (RIB), arguably the world's most widely used craft for inshore rescue, developed in the 1960s by Rear-Admiral Desmond Hoare, the college's founding principal, and tested by college students.

The project team came up with new solutions to aid the process, utilising their knowledge of drone technology and artificial intelligence after experiencing first-hand the difficulties of searching for and rescuing persons in trouble at sea during their college service and lifeguarding training programme.

UWC Atlantic College's collaboration with Rolls-Royce is part of its commitment to forging relationships between education and industry, as the College plans to develop a new 21st century diploma pathway in collaboration with the International Baccalaureate.

Simon O'Connor, a marine engineer in Rolls-Royce's naval business, Bernard Twomey, regulatory development lead (marine), and Don Murray, senior vice president (manufacturing), travelled to St Donat's Castle to work with some of the students to develop systematic approaches to solving problems faced by search and rescue teams at sea.

Erol Balkovic (18), from Bosnia and Herzegovina, a second year student involved with the project, said: "In our first year, we had the opportunity to experience real search and rescue missions aboard the RIB. It can be incredibly hard to find what, or who, you are looking for in those conditions. One of our ideas revolves around the idea that technology can become the eyes and ears of a search and rescue team, pinpointing the location of a person or boat in trouble and making the entire process more efficient. This could help save lives otherwise lost at sea."

Mr O'Connor said: "We've worked with students at some of the UK's top universities focused on marine engineering and naval architecture. The ideas, problem-solving approaches and knowledge of the students at Atlantic College is akin to what we would expect to see at undergraduate level, and in some instances, even postgraduate level."

Don Murray, who is one of the Rolls-Royce's STEM ambassadors in the UK, said: "They think without boundaries – nothing seems unachievable – and their enthusiasm for the subject is extraordinary. If this level of skill and work ethic can be demonstrated in a college environment, then these individuals will certainly excel as they progress to third-level education."

Mr Twomey added: "Many of their ideas are unique, completely new to the industry. It was a pleasure to help them take those ideas further, and we are looking forward to seeing how the collaborative project unfolds."

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Abandoned Villages and uncovering their history

WHAT do the names Tyneham, Imber, or Tide Mills mean to you?

Perhaps somewhere a little closer to here, such as Temperance Town or Y Graig?

Cosmeston and Kenfig must ring bells, surely?

The answer is that they are all abandoned communities and villages and in some, the bells have not rung for decades or centuries.

The reasons for their abandonment are varied. Imber (Salisbury Plain) and Tyneham (Dorset) were requisitioned during World War Two to permit Allied troops the 'experience' of FIBUA (Fighting In Built-Up Areas), and no, that does not refer to a ruck in The Ram in Tidworth on a Friday night.

For some villages, industry changed and people left. For others, the settlement was consumed by water when a valley was flooded to make a reservoir.

Residents of some hamlets and villages departed in an altogether different way. The Black Death is one such reason.

Retired psychologist Stephen Fisk has researched and written a fascinating book – *Abandoned Villages* – on the subject, and has kindly offered a copy to a lucky GEM reader.

Stephen said: "I retired in 2003. Having worked as a clinical psychologist I left with no plans at all for the future, but reasonably confident that new interests and activities would soon begin to come along. One of my biggest interests since then has been the abandoned villages of Britain."

He said that an early inspiration was Richard Muir's book *The Lost Villages of Britain*.

"Before long I was exploring the sites of villages not far from my home in south Wales. Cosmeston, the only deserted medieval village that has been reconstructed; Kenfig, the castle and town built by the Anglo-Normans as part of their attempt to conquer this part of Wales, but almost completely covered by sand during huge storms in the 15th century.

"Over the next few years I enjoyed trips to all parts of Britain. In Sussex, for example, I went to Tide Mills and Lowfield Heath. Tide Mills got its name as it was close to a flour mill driven by tidal power.

Stephen Fisk's book* Abandoned Villages. *One copy is available to win in a GEM competition.

The mill closed in 1883, but the village survived until the early part of World War Two."

Stephen said that he began to think about publishing the results of his travels and research.

"A book or a website were the options. I decided to develop a website, the Abandoned Communities website, and I am very glad I made that choice.

"A website makes it much easier for readers to get in touch, and I have many people to thank for telling me about abandoned villages I did not know about; people who lived in abandoned villages or their descendants who have given me information and photographs of life in their village while it still existed; and even one or two people who have explained the meaning of local words or have offered to read or interpret old documents that I was having trouble with.

"Having said that, I am now very grateful to Amberley for giving me a chance to produce a book as well."

And so is The GEM.

Abandoned Villages is a splendid book that chronicles the changing way people live in the United Kingdom, and the reasons – a variation on the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse comprising war, pestilence, famine, and industry – behind why once-thriving villages ceased.

To win a copy of *Abandoned Villages*, answer this question:

What is the name of the village in North Wales abandoned in the late-1880s to make the reservoir Lake Vyrnwy?

Clue: visit Stephen's blog – www.abandonedcommunities.co.uk – to find the answer.

Entries must be sent by email to editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk with the subject heading ABANDONED VILLAGES or by post (on a postcard or the back of a sealed-down envelope) to The Glamorgan GEM, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge, CF71 7EL and received no later than noon on Tuesday, April 3, 2018.

The winner will be the first entry drawn out of a hat after that date, and must visit the Gem's office for a photograph. The Editorial Team's decision is final, no correspondence will be entered into, and no cash alternative is available.

Abandoned Villages is available from Amberley Books. Visit www.amberley-books.com, or telephone 01453 847800 for more information.

SF/AJ

MP meets Vale woman during trade mission to USA

WHILE Vale MP Alun Cairns was on a recent trade mission to America in his capacity as Secretary of State for Wales, he bumped into a familiar face.

He met Anna Wallace, who is from St Mary Church, and was Cowbridge educated. Anna used to work for Mr Cairns when he was an Assembly Member.

She is now the finance director to the Mayor of Philadelphia with a £7bn budget.

MP Alun Cairns with Anna Wallace on his recent trip to the USA.

Volunteering opportunity

EAST Vale Community Transport, who provide wheelchair friendly door-to-door transport for all in the eastern Vale, are currently looking for volunteer drivers. If you would like to volunteer in the local community, enjoy driving and want to make a difference, then contact EVCT on 02920 705138 or email enquiries@evct.org.uk.

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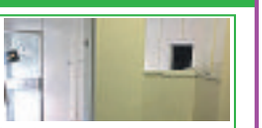
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AVERAGE COSTS INCLUDE:
Coffin, Hearse, Limousine, Robe, Bearers, Grave or Cremation, Church, Minister & Doctor's Fees
No charge for services not required
Cremation - Thornhill £3,275
Cremation - Barry £3,450
Burial - Penarth £3,350
Burial - Barry £3,440
No Hidden Costs
02920 703581
Supporting local charities with monthly donations

Family Notices

REES
Malcolm John

Passed away suddenly on 2nd March 2018 at the Princess of Wales Hospital, aged 74 years. Loving husband to Vivien, loving father, grandfather and great grandfather.

He will be sadly missed by his loving family and friends.

Resting at W.A. Brown Funeralcare, Llantwit Major, until the service at Coychurch Crematorium on Wednesday, 21st March at 10.30am.

No flowers please, donations may be given for Cancer Research UK, c/o the funeral home.

ESCOTT
Julia Ann

Peacefully on Friday, 2nd March at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend. Julia will be sadly missed by her loving husband Dilwyn, her sons Michael and Mark and all her grandchildren.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W. James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Tuesday, 20th March, service and cremation 12 noon at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend.

LANG
Beatrice Olive

Peacefully on 2nd March at the University Hospital of Wales, Olive, dearly beloved wife of Bill. Much loved, one in a million mum of Tarina, Cheryl, Beverly and Christopher. Adored nan and great nan.

Resting at William Ham Funeral Home, Cardiff until her cremation on Monday, 26th March at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry at 3pm.

Whilst dearly loved and sadly missed.

O'DARE
Ronald Delwyn (Ron)

Peacefully at Llandough Hospital, Penarth on 2nd March, Ron, formerly of Glebeland Place, St Athan. Much loved dad of Mark, Craig and Shaun, father-in-law of Geraldine, Michelle and Mandy. Adored bampy and grampy to all his grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Resting in the care of A.G. Adams Funeralcare, Gladstone Road, Barry until his funeral service at the Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry on Tuesday, 27th Match at 2pm. Flowers may be sent to the funeral home, or, if desired, donations in lieu of flowers to Diabetes UK.

MORGAN
Ivor Joseph

Peacefully on 28th February at Llandough Hospital, Ivor Joseph, aged 92 years of Barry, retired monumental mason. Dearly loved husband of Iris, a loved father of Pip and Tim. Father-in-law of Gary and Sarah. Cherished grandfather of Sally, Kate, Robert and Owen. Great grandfather of Eva, Leo and Olive.

Ivor will be greatly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, Gladstone Road, Barry. Funeral service at Crossway Methodist Church, Court Road, Barry on Thursday, 22nd March at 9.45am, followed by cremation at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry at 11am.

Family flowers only, donations, if desired, may be handed to the funeral director after the funeral for Dementia.

HOOK
Leonard (Len)

Peacefully at University Hospital of Wales on 8th March 2018, Len, aged 86 years (formally of Hook Signs). Beloved husband of Sylvia, much loved dad of Susan and Paul. An adored gramps to Emma, Mark, David, Becky and Katie, also great grandchildren Jakob and Ellis.

Len will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium on Thursday, 22nd March at 4pm. Family flowers only. Donations in lieu, if so desired, for Cancer Research UK c/o the funeral director.

In honour of Len's love of colour, please no black.

HOLLAND
Suzanne (*née Connor*)

Suddenly on 5th March 2018 after a short illness, Suzanne, aged 68 years. Beloved wife of Jeff, much loved mum of Bridie, Lou and son-in-law Dru. Cherished nan of Rochelle, Luke, Mason and Oscar.

Suzanne will be sadly missed by all her family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the service at All Saints Church, Barry on Tuesday, 27th March at 10.45am, followed by committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium. Flowers may be sent to the funeral home.

CARPANINI
Carla (*née Armelin*)

Peacefully after a long illness on 9 March at Llandough Hospital, Carla, of Penarth. Beloved wife of the late Bruno. Beloved daughter of the late Tony and Giannina. Loving sister of Paola, Francis, Anthony, Pia and the late Armando.

Carla will be very greatly missed by all of her family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, Gladstone Road, Barry. To be received in to St Helen's Roman Catholic Church, Barry on Sunday, 25 March at 4pm. Requiem Mass on Monday, 26 March at 9.30am, followed by cremation at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry at 11am.

Family flowers only, if desired donations may be handed to the funeral director after the funeral for Marie Curie Hospice, Bridgeman Road, Penarth.

FEARN
Doreen May (*née Sparks*)

Peacefully passed away at Barry Hospital on Thursday, 8th March, Doreen, adored wife of the late Edward Fearn. Much loved mum of Christine, Rosemary, Edward and Elizabeth. Respected mother-in-law to Stephen, Iain, Lacey and Kevin. A beloved grandmother and great grandmother.

Doreen will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Resting in the care of Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, Court Road, Barry until her service at Crossway Methodist Church, Barry on Monday, 26th March at 12.45pm, followed by cremation at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry.

Family floral tributes only. Donations, if desired, may be made at the service or via Doreen's online tribute page at www.valefuneralservice.co.uk where you are welcome to leave your personal messages for the family. All donations to support British Heart Foundation.

Further enquiries from 01446 407962.

SIMPSON
Vera Joyce (*née George*)

Passed away peacefully on 4th March 2018 in Colwyn Bay, north Wales, aged 88 years. Beloved wife of the late Bill, daughter of the late Uriah and May George. Devoted sister to the late Jack and Billy George, step sister of the late Ilene and Jenkin Elward, half sister to Moria George.

Funeral service to take place in Colwyn Bay Crematorium on 23rd March.

All enquiries please to T. Conchar & Sons Funeral Home, telephone 01492 532206.

FELLOWS
Leonard

(of Barry, Vale of Glamorgan)

Leonard passed away peacefully at Bellavista Nursing Home on 27th February, aged 82 years. A dear brother to the late Edward, who was lost at sea and the late Richard. Leonard is survived by his beloved sister Betty all whom were part of a Merchant Navy family.

Leonard is resting at Park Funeral Directors until the service at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, on Wednesday, 21st March at 3pm.

Donations in lieu of flowers to RNLI.

LEE
Betty

Peacefully on 2 March 2018 at Milson House Nursing Home, Betty, formerly of Barry. Dearly loved aunt, she will be sadly missed by all her family.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, Gladstone Road, Barry until the funeral service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium on Monday, 26 March at 1pm.

Family flowers only. Donations may be sent to CLAPA, the Cleft Lip and Palate Association, Greenman Tower, 332B Goswell Road, London, EC1V7LQ.

In Memory

HOPKINS
Audrey Patricia

17th March 2016

We have suffered since we lost you, life has never been the same.

In our heart your memory lingers, sweetly, tender, fond and true

There is not a day, dear mother. that we don't think of you.

We love you mum and nan.

Rest in Peace

Dawn, Gem, Caz & Chloe xxx

In Memory

PIDDUCK
Alf

21 March 2017

With farewells left unspoken, you gently passed away.

Love Joan & family xxx

ROBERTS
Mathew Paul (Pastie)

14 March 2016

Adored son and dad, miss you so much, always in our thoughts and hearts.

Love mum & son Elliot *xxx*

HAWKINS
Peter

13 March 2017

A dear brother sadly missed, always in our hearts and our thoughts.

Love Patricia & Leslie *xxx*

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Cadoxton Funeral Home

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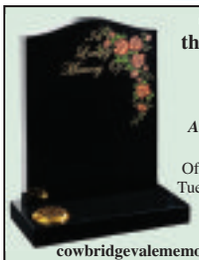

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cowbridgeandthevalememorials.wales

Situations Vacant

Monmouthshire Beacon

GENERAL MANAGER VACANCY

We have a vacancy for a General Manager at our Monmouthshire Beacon series of newspaper.

Based in Monmouth the successful applicant will need to demonstrate a proven sales record, have an ability to lead and motivate the sales and editorial teams whilst exceeding previous results for all revenue streams including newspaper advertising, online advertising, circulation sales plus other supporting areas.

This is a very challenging role and requires someone with a 'can do' mentality, who isn't afraid of hard work, who can see opportunities and strive to achieve them.

The local newspaper industry is in a period of enormous change; the successful candidate will therefore need to understand these changes and its impact and potential in equal amounts.

If you are dynamic, results-driven, enthusiastic, a team player, motivated, analytical, not afraid of tough decisions, with the ability to care for the team and inspire them to share your goals, with, of course, 100 per cent belief in local newspapers, then this role might be for you.

Whilst a sales background is very much desirable a non-sales background would be considered.

If you feel this is you, and you can answer 'that's me!' to these vital skill requirements please apply in the first instance with covering letter and CV to:

SIMON PARSONSON
Managing Director, Tindle Wales
Via email **simon.parsonson@tindlenews.co.uk**
Closing date for applications is 5pm, Friday, 23rd March 2018.

Topstak

SALES OFFICE PERSON REQUIRED

To help with growing sales we are looking for an enthusiastic person to join our busy sales team.

The position will involve assisting with customers on the phone and processing online sales orders for Topstak and sister company Rodstation.

Experience would be beneficial in Sage accounting, but training will be given. Position is Tuesday to Saturday. Salary & benefits based on experience.

Please send CV to Adam Pedersen, Topstak, Unit 42, Vale Business Park, Cowbridge CF71 7PF

Email: adam.pedersen@topstak.co.uk

Office/Administration Assistant - Barry

An office assistant is required to assist and support the Company Director in a family-run water treatment and commissioning business on a full-time basis.

Duties to include organising and filing project paperwork, answering telephone and client queries, maintaining files and to run the office unsupervised on occasions.

Salary negotiable depending on experience.

Email CV to: fccaccounts60@yahoo.com

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Public Notices

LICENSING ACT 2003
Section 17 (5)
Notice of Application for a Premises Licence
NOTICE IS GIVEN THAT
An application has been made to Bridgend County Borough Council (the Licensing Authority) for a **PREMISES LICENCE** To permit licensable activities which it is proposed will be carried on, on or from the premises shown below. Details of the application may be inspected between the hours of: Monday to Thursday 0830 to 1700 hours and Friday 0830 to 1630 hours at Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB or by visiting the authority's website: www.bridgend.gov.uk.
Any responsible authority or any other person may make representations in respect of the application, which must be submitted, in writing, to the following address before the date shown below:
Licensing Section, Bridgend County Borough Council, Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB.
NAME OF APPLICANT:
John Bernard Colston
NAME AND POSTAL ADDRESS OF THE PREMISES: **Nantyffyllon RFC, Blosse Street, Maesteg, CF34 0HP**
STATEMENT OF INTENDED LICENSABLE ACTIVITIES: Provision of regulated entertainment including;
Indoor Sporting Events, 08:00 hrs to 23:00 hrs 7 days per week,
Boxing or Wrestling Entertainment 08:00 to 23:00 hrs 7 days per week,
Live Music, Sunday to Thursday 12:00 hrs to 23:30 hrs, Friday and Saturday 12:00 hrs to 00:30 hrs
Recorded Music Sunday to Thursday 08:00 hrs to 23:30 hrs, Friday and Saturday 08:00 hrs to 01:00 hrs,
Performances of Dance Sunday to Thursday 08:00 hrs to 22:00 hrs, Friday and Saturday 8:00 hrs to 23:00 hrs, 08:00 to 23:00,
Provision of Late Night Refreshment and the Supply of Alcohol for consumption on and off the premises. 10:00 hrs to 01:00 hrs 7 days per week.
DATE BY WHICH REPRESENTATIONS MUST BE MADE: This notice remains in force from and including the day after the giving of this notice to the licensing authority, namely April 5th, 2018, for 28 consecutive days.
It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine on summary conviction is £5,000.
(1) This must include details of activities, type of entertainment and appropriate days and times

LICENSING ACT 2003
Section 17 (5)
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Any responsible authority or any other person may make representations in respect of the application, which must be submitted, in writing, to the following address before the date shown below:
Licensing Section, Bridgend County Borough Council, Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB.
NAME OF APPLICANT:
Lee Grabham
NAME AND POSTAL ADDRESS OF THE PREMISES: **Kenfig Hill and Pyle British Legion, Brynglas Terrace, Pyle CF33 3AG.**
STATEMENT OF INTENDED LICENSABLE ACTIVITIES: (1) To sell alcohol beverages to persons over 18, whilst following the licensing act 2003. Attend and follow pub watch meetings, Hire a function room for parties and events. Play recorded and live music (indoors only). Opening times of the premises are Sunday-Friday 10.00am-00.30; Saturday 10.00am-01.30. Sunday preceding Bank Holidays 10.00-01.00. Boxing Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day 10.00-01.30.
DATE BY WHICH REPRESENTATIONS MUST BE MADE: 04/03/18.
This notice remains in force from and including the day after the giving of this notice to the licensing authority, namely March 5, 2018, for 28 consecutive days.
It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine on summary conviction is £5,000.

Articles For Sale

Teak Dining Table
Extends to seat 8 with 4 chairs and 2 carvers.
Also illuminated teak cabinet. Open to offers, buyer collect.
01446 741109
09

Antique Remington 38 Rimfire Conversion Police Model Revolver
Made early 1870s, nickel plated, legal, no licence needed, classed as antique/curio.
£1000
07526 657737
11

Acorn Slimline Stairlift
For straight stairs, price includes fitting by trained engineer
£500
01446 711739
09

8x8 Alloy Greenhouse
Good condition, open to good offers.
Tel: 01446 781495
(call after 6pm)
11

Towered Scaffolding
New, never been used, pre-galvanised, 6ft x 4ft, Base EASA, working height 21ft. Complete with safety rails, cross bars and base plates. Ideal for builders and DIY.
£265 Free delivery
Tel: 07979 264543
11

Kymco Mini LS Mobility Scooter & Cover
Purchased 2015, hardly used.
£500 ono
Tel: 02920 703220
11

Mobility Scooter
As new.
Rise & Fall Black Leather Chair
as new.
Reasonable offers accepted.
Tel: 01443 222943
11

Rhys Balmont hat-trick as Llantwit beat Ynysowen

LLANTWIT MAJOR RFC ran in five tries as they gained another bonus point in an emphatic win at home in this league fixture against Ynysowen, who prior to the game were placed fourth in the league.

The try count was worth further praise due to the ground conditions, where the recent snow and heavy rain made the ground considerably heavy and produced yet another game with a mud caked ball.

As the game kicked off with Llantwit facing the School End some spectators had not made it out of the clubhouse before the home side had racked up seven points.

The first try came from a lovely set of passing in the three-quarters after the forwards had put them in a good field position. The backs didn't need to be asked twice as they quickly spread the ball, putting full back Bradley Morgan over for an unconverted try.

Ynysowen who, unfortunately, requested uncontested scrums prior to kick off, are a pretty resilient team and quickly fought back and despite being only able to field the bare 15 players they began to run the ball back at the home side, forcing Llantwit back towards the clubhouse on several attempts at field position.

This is a maturing Llantwit side and they comfortably soaked up the pressure before looking to push Ynysowen into the corners, and one such position gained a penalty for Howley to quickly boot over and extend their lead.

It wasn't long before Llantwit were back on the scoresheet; after a lengthy period of possession in the Ynysowen 22, a beautiful set piece from a scrum saw Steff Godwin at nine whisk the ball back to Howley, who set off on a lovely run with centre Josh Austin and wing Joel Thomas running great angles on dummy runs.

With Ynysowen bamboozled, Howley threw a lovely weighted pass out wide to Rhys Balmont, who had come off his other line and was lurking deep to collect, and he scampered over for an unconverted try. The score at half-time was 8-0.

The second half started with a reversal in fortune as Ynysowen were the first on the scoresheet with a well-taken converted try after a series of forward drives saw a tight forward barge over.

Llantwit, though, after some stern talking to by skipper Geraint David, soon got back on track and constantly pressured their opponents with strong forwards runs, coupled with spreading the ball whenever possible in order to tire an already-tiring Ynysowen pack.

The tactic soon paid off as after a lengthy period of Llantwit possession, and some quick rucking by the pack, the away side defence was in tatters.

Howley, spotting a gap, broke the line and then with some classy footwork chipped the covering full-back and, on recovering, dived in between the posts.

Howley followed up with his own conversion to suck the life out of the visitors and put any revival firmly to bed.

The rest of the half then became a comfortable workout for Llantwit as they began using their bench and increased the tempo on their opponents, who had no replacements.

It was, therefore, not long before the home side were once again on the scoresheet with Balmont getting his second try after some great interchanging between forwards and backs put the speedster away. The try was converted by Howley.

The final say went to Balmont as he capped another fine performance by notching his third try and taking his tally for the season to 13 and, naturally, also claiming the man-of-the-match award.

Further mention must go to flanker Donovan Stoppel who put in a normal workman-like performance in sadly his last game for the club as he heads home to South Africa.

Donovan has been a stalwart in the team and the club with his big personality and will be sadly missed - the club would like to wish him all the best in the future.

With the final weekend of the Six Nations this Saturday, there is no game until March 24 when the Llantonians travel to Tonyrefail.

The clubhouse will be open for all the Super Saturday internationals with the two bars and function room showing the games, and afterwards local band The Shameless will be taking festivities well into the night.

AH

RED TAPE 'INCREASING PRESSURE' SAYS AM

ACTION must be taken to address difficulties recruiting GPs in Cardiff, the Vale and RCT, South Wales Central AM Andrew RT Davies has said.

The British Medical Association has voiced concerns over 'unacceptable bureaucracy' in the recruitment process – with two separate medical performers' lists for England and Wales.

They have claimed this is detrimental to English doctors who want to work in Wales, with many having to wait several months for their applications to be approved.

There have recently been notable pressures on GP provision in south Wales, with the partners at Fairwater Health Centre taking the "unusual step" of writing to patients to warn of the pressures 8,000 new patients in the area will have on services.

Pointing out that several constituents had contacted him to express concerns, Mr Davies said it was vital action was taken to ensure local patients did not lose out.

Mr Davies said: "There are considerable pressures on local GP services in Cardiff, the Vale and RCT – and it is vital these are addressed.

"It is therefore concerning that the BMA have highlighted problems with the recruitment system in Wales, when we need to do all we can to attract more GPs to the area.

"We should be making it easier for English doctors to come to Wales – and the fact it can take months for applications to be processed is very worrying.

"The issues in Fairwater have been well documented and many constituents got in touch about it. We simply can't afford to let opportunities pass us by.

"I'm therefore calling on the Welsh Government to take action to ensure this problem is addressed so we can tackle the problems of GP shortages in south Wales."

Wales takes UK lead in proton beam therapy

WALES has shown 'outstanding' vision in helping to develop innovative proton beam therapy services for cancer patients.

Speaking at the BioWales biotech conference recently, Professor Karol Sikora, chief medical director of Proton Partners International, said that the commitment to put Wales on the world life sciences map had led to the establishment of the UK's first high energy proton beam therapy centre at Newport.

Proton Partners International Ltd opened its Rutherford Cancer Centre in Newport earlier this year. The centre brings the most advanced treatments in cancer care to south Wales and will start treating the UK's first patients with high energy proton beam therapy by early April.

Professor Sikora said: "With cancer on the rise, there is a growing need for patients to be offered a holistic and sophisticated cancer service. Around 10 per cent of all cancer patients having curative radiotherapy could benefit from proton therapy, as it has significantly lower side effects compared to traditional treatment.

"The Rutherford Cancer Centre in Wales, and the further three centres under construction in the UK, will transform the lives of many cancer patients with its very precise form of cancer treatment, and will mean that patients who need proton beam therapy will not have to travel abroad in future to receive it."

The Rutherford Cancer Centres will offer all-encompassing cancer services, including high energy proton beam therapy, radiotherapy, chemotherapy, imaging and wellbeing services.

Treatment at the Rutherford Cancer Centre south Wales will be available to medically-insured private patients, self-paying patients and referrals by NHS Wales.

The BioWales conference is the leading event for the life sciences sector in Wales, bringing together industry experts, life science investors, healthcare professionals and the innovation ecosystem, with the aim of improving health and wellbeing in Wales.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990
Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012

Development that may affect a Conservation Area/ Datblygu a allai effeithio ar Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No:/ Rhif y cais:	2018/00136/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig:	Conversion of existing house in to 3 apartments. Extensions to property to provide a further 6 apartments
Location:/Lleoliad:	Ashdene, 10, Bridgeman Road, Penarth
Conservation Area:/ Ardal Gadwraeth	Penarth

Affecting setting of a Listed Building/ Cais (au) sy'n effeithio ar leoliad Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/ Rhif y cais:	2018/00240/RES
Proposal:/Cynnig:	Phase 2 of the development consisting of 306 new homes, new public open space, landscaping and highways infrastructure
Location:/Lleoliad:	Land at North West Cowbridge
Listed Building:/ Adeilad Rhestredig	Affecting the Church of St. Brynach, Llanfrynach, Grade II* and the Cross Base in churchyard of the Church of St. Brynach, Llanfrynach, Grade II

Application(s) of General Interest / Ceisiadau o Ddiddordeb Cyffredinol

Application No:/ Rhif y cais:	2017/00955/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig:	AMENDED APPLICATION FORM RECEIVED. Proposed alteration to existing G/F retail unit and change of use to D2 (Gym), part demolition of existing 1st floor side and 3rd floor extension to form 12 residential units, on site basement parking, cycle and refuse storage and 1st floor amenity areas
Location:/Lleoliad:	Former RS Garage, Windsor Road, Penarth
Application No:/ Rhif y cais:	2018/00240/RES
Proposal:/Cynnig:	Phase 2 of the development consisting of 306 new homes, new public open space, landscaping and highways infrastructure
Location:/Lleoliad:	Land at North West Cowbridge

Details may be inspected for 21 days at the address given below, or via **http://vogonline.planning-register.co.uk/**

Gall manylion eu harchwilio am 21 diwrnod yn y cyfeiriad a roddir isod, neu drwy **http://vogonline.planning-register.co.uk/**

Dated / Dyddiedig: 15 March, 2018

V. L. Robinson
Operational Manager,
Regeneration and Planning,
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
Dock Office, Barry. CF63 4RT

WALES - *The Six Nations so far...*

ALL PICTURES BY HUW EVANS AGENCY.

IT'S been a mixed Six Nations for Wales thus far.

Home wins over Scotland and, last Sunday, Italy have been countered by away defeats to England and Ireland, games that Wales could arguably perhaps have won under different circumstances.

However, a win over France on Saturday (5pm kick-off) in the final game of the tournament could see Warren Gatland's men seal second place in the table, arguably better than many predicted, provided Ireland beat England in the second game of the day, which kicks off at 2.45pm, where Joe Schimdt's team will be aiming to win the Grand Slam.

With Italy hosting Scotland at 12.30pm, it promises to be a nerve-shredding final day!

PORTHCAWL RUNNERS SHOWING THEIR CLASS

PORTHCAWL Runners have once again been out in force in recent weeks with some outstanding performances and results across the board.

The club's athletes are now mixing it with the very best in the region on a regular basis and a special mention for Alun Williams, who posted a time of 1:25:50 to bag a top 65 finish from over 1,700 competitors at the Llanelli Half Marathon.

Teammate Mark Bowen was also home in under 1 hour 30 mins while there were excellent performances from Joseph Mainwaring, Dennie Mainwaring, Gareth Mole, Louise Mordue and Alistair Thomson.

Entrants in the recent Llanelli Half Marathon.

Deb Goule is always a contender for the podium places and it was no different at the 114th Wales Cross Country Championships at Singleton Park in Swansea where she brought home a bronze medal in the Master Women 45 category.

Meanwhile, only the Beast from the East could stop the Runners' charge towards promotion to the top flight of the West Glamorgan Cross Country League.

Both the men's and womens teams were well placed to push for the top two heading into the last of the six races at Aberavon Beach, but the inclement weather conditions meant it was cancelled.

And, as it will not be rescheduled, the tables heading into the last race stand, meaning both end the season third in their respective Division Two standings.

The success of the men, led by skipper Will Edwards, was notable though as they finished as the highest ranked Bridgend club in the area – which bodes well ahead of the new Bridgend County Running League season this summer.

There was individual success too with Deb Goule third female overall and first in her F45 age category.

The frustrating weather also forced the postponement of the St David's Day 10K in Cardiff and the Newport Half, but the club will be well represented when those races are rearranged with many also competing in the Cardiff Bay 10k on March 25.

Parkrun is also a regular attraction for the Runners with personal bests flying in from everywhere on a weekly basis.

Congratulations, in particular, to Mark James and Dave Bennett who recently achieved their 50 and 100 parkrun milestones respectively.

Last Saturday's club parkrun also featured the latest batch of graduates from the Couch to 5k programme, which was run by Owen Dobson in conjunction with South Wales Police.

CARL FIELD

Junior rugby festival to be held in Cowbridge

COWBRIDGE junior rugby festival will be held this year on March 24/25.

It started last year and proved so successful it is returning and has become the largest junior rugby festival in Wales.

Over 1,000 children aged seven-15 will be taking part from clubs all over Wales and it will be held at Cowbridge Comprehensive School, who have kindly loaned their grounds to the event.

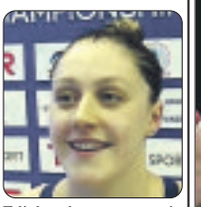
There will be games to watch but also a chance to practice skills with the Cardiff Blues plus fantastic catering and activities for the kids. You might even spot some rugby legends walking around. All in all, it will be a great family weekend.

For more information contact event organiser Andrew Lord - amlord@btinternet.com or Emma Williams - emmasomerville@hotmail.co.uk.

EW

Swimmer Harriet is selected for Commonwealth Games team

HARRIET JONES of Bonvilston has been selected to compete for Wales in the upcoming Commonwealth Games taking place in Brisbane, Australia.



Harriet will be competing in three Butterfly events - the 50m, 100m and 200m. Harriet, aged 20, started swimming for Cardiff Swimming Club when she was 12 and is now a member of the Wales senior elite team.

Already this year Harriet has achieved outstanding success. In January at the TYR Pro Swim Series in Austin Texas, Harriet competed in the 50m butterfly, breaking a 10-year-old Welsh record in a time of 26.63 seconds.

Then, in March, in spite of the 'Beast from the East', Harriet braved the weather to travel to Edinburgh to compete in the British Championships.

The journey was well rewarded with Harriet becoming British Champion in both the 50m and 100m butterfly, completing the 100m race in a personal best of 58.85 seconds - Harriet can be seen pictured above after her 100m butterfly win.

Bonvilston wishes Harriet every success when she competes in Melbourne.

The 50m and 100m races take place on Thursday, April 5 and Friday April 6, followed by the 200m Fly on Monday, April 9.

PF

Tondu RFC blow away Resolven with emphatic win

Matthew Morgan charges down the line. ALL PICTURES BY GARETH ANTHONY.

Nathan Strong lives up to his name as he holds off a Resolven defender.

RESOLVEN had plenty of possession in this Division 1 West Central encounter but it was Tondu who seemed to score every time they went on the attack.

Their first try after five minutes came from a sensational break from full back Aled Jones resulting in the hard-working Matthew Morgan crashing over; Josh Tatchell added the conversion.

Owen Evans then slotted a penalty for the visitors only for Matthew Murphy to add a second try for the home side.

Tondu were already treating their supporters to a master class in running rugby and when winger Aled Jones sailed over just before the break, the writing was already on the wall for the west Wales side.

The second half began with the bonus point try when hooker Jake Lewis smashed his way over from a rolling maul, and Tatchell was on target with the conversion.

A consolation try for hooker Nicky Reed for the visitors didn't really dampen Tondu's spirit, and when replacement hooker Nick Davies took advantage of a poor throw in from his opposite number to score with his first touch of the game, everyone knew it was going to be Tondu's day.

Almost straight from the kick-off the home side were at it again, this time a superb run from scrum half Gareth Lindenburn began the move that saw flanker Matthew Morgan set up Marc Roberts for a try.

The final try came through flanker Matthew Morgan, believing he was the outside half when he kicked behind the Resolven defence for winger Aled Jones to bag his second try, the final score 48-8.

On this form Tondu will be a match for any side but there is now another week off for the final Saturday of the Six Nations before back-to-back games against Bonymaen, the first of which is away on Saturday, March 24 with the home fixture a week later.

MIKE SULLY

Aled Jones scores.

It's try time for Marc Roberts.

Sports under-12s deliver fine victory

AN early kick off on Mothering Sunday for Bridgend Sports' under-12s provided a little serenity after the Beast from the East left its mark the previous week.

The weather has certainly disrupted the fixture list throughout the first months of 2018.

An opportunity for this fixture with Tondu under-12s was therefore welcomed and the young players put on a treat with some great rugby for all the dedicated mothers who turn up each week.

Both sides wanted to play an attractive brand of rugby which was evident throughout the 50 minute game. It was clear that they were also motivated by the challenge of playing a local rival.

The home side gained the upper hand, early on, due to their success in the tackle area where jackal Harri Williams was quick to pounce and rob the opposition of ball.

When the openside wins the ball, a sharp pair of half backs is always useful and the Sports duo of Will Ellis and Cian John didn't disappoint as they used the quick ruck ball to good effect, opting to vary their attack with forwards Chloe Gant, Mason Balmer, Megan Lewis and Theo Clarke on hand to break the gain line and then from the ruck, the ball was moved wide.

The Tondu defence was resolute and forced some early errors to mount attacks from set pieces. They could not, however, counter the Sports' superiority on the ground.

A fine steal by Iestyn John retrieved possession for Cian John to counter attack. Some delightful interplay with Dylan Morgan saw play taken up from the halfway line.

John then used his pace to glide through the cover defence to put the Sports 5-0 up.

The home team were now brimming with confidence and were soon back camping on the Tondu line. Theo Clarke, Tyler Burton and Chloe Gant tried some shortrange pick and go attacks to force a scrum five.

From the scrum, the ball was moved through centres Thomas Coles and Dylan Morgan. Harri Williams was on hand as play broke down, he offloaded to Chloe Gant to force her way over to score a second try, right on half-time, for the Sports to lead 10-0.

Early in the second half Tondu fought back with several attacks from their own half but Sports wing Iestyn John was frequently on hand to call a halt to any threat out wide.

He was also quick on his feet to then secure possession for his side to attack across field, his fellow wing Callum Jones then cut back inside before being hauled down just outside the Tondu 22.

The Sports were quick in support to win the ruck and scrum half Will Ellis saw an opportunity to snipe and beat the covering attack to score an excellent try to extend the lead to 15-0.

Tondu kicked off and secured a scrum but lost possession again at the ruck. The Sports then looked to have broken downfield with good runs from Dylan Parry and Mason Blamer through the middle of the field.

Tondu, however, began to master the rip in the tackle to secure possession to counter attack. This eventually led to a Tondu penalty which they opted to kick to the corner.

From the lineout they found a way to put Nathan Lewis in space out wide and the winger made no mistake to score. Lewis Chalmers added the conversion.

The Sports knew they had to respond and they did not fail as the combination of Harri Williams, Theo Clarke and Chloe Gant kept breaking the line, while Dylan Morgan and Callum Jones continued to combine well.

Chloe Gant added a second score from an attack; again quick ruck ball saw her in space 15 metres out. She saw the line and put in a determined run to score near the posts.

Callum Jones kicked the conversion to round off an excellent game of rugby with Bridgend Sports winning 22 points to 7.

SP

On and Off The Turf with Brian Lee

TWO of the four pony races staged at last Saturday's Beaufort Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases were won by a rider from the Vale.

Edward Vaughan, son of Aberthin National Hunt trainer Tim Vaughan and Abbi Vaughan, was successful on Little Replacement and Peateaoh; Jessica Llewellyn won the 148cm event on Class Act Annie.

There was further success for the Vale when BillyGwyn Too, ridden by Tommie O'Brien, landed the young horse maiden race.

A 3-1 chance, BillyGwyn Too, trained by Merthyr Mawr's Jonathan Tudor, and Abbi Vaughan's Shanan du Berlias, the odds-on favourite, jumped the last almost together and despite losing his irons after a last fence blunder, BillyGwyn's rider managed to get up on the line.

Bradley Gibbs chalked up his seventh win of the season when winning the restricted open race on Claire Sherriff's eight-year-old bay mare Nuevo Molino.

Bridgend's Connor Brace, who is making a bold bid for the novice riders' championship, finished third on Bob The Butcher in the intermediate race and second on Mitbeall Forluck in the novice riders' race.

LORD BRYAN'S HEREFORD WIN

Lord Bryan, jointly owned by the Vale's Gwyn Brace and his daughter Jayne, and trained by Peter Bowen in Pembrokeshire, was a 10 lengths winner of the novices' limited handicap chase at Hereford Racecourse last Saturday.

The eight-year-old, a 4-1 chance, was ridden by the trainer's son Sean Bowen who also won on all his other three rides.

He won the opening handicap hurdle on 4-1 chance Colt Lighting for Tom Lacey, the mares' handicap on Dai Rees' Misty Mai (7-1), and the handicap chase on Dr Newland's Beau Bay.

BRECON RACES

There are 111 entries for the re-arranged Brecon Hunt Point-To-Point at Llanfrynach on Saturday (first race 1pm).

A number of horses from the Vale have been entered and an exciting day's racing is promised.

EVAN'S SUFFOLK WINNER

Llanharan's Evan David won the open maiden race at the Suffolk at Hampton Point-To-Point Steeplechases on Andrew Pennock's Chosen Rose last Sunday.

BYRON'S WINNER

Cowbridge's Byron Moorcroft won the restricted open race at Hackwood Park on the Keiron Price-trained League Of His Own last Sunday.

The lightly raced League Of His Own, a former inmate of Tim Vaughan's Aberthin yard, was an 8-1 chance.

**You can e-mail your racing news, views and pictures to brianlee4@virginmedia.com or phone 02920736438.*

BRIDGEND ATHLETIC MINI AND JUNIOR RUGBY ROUND-UP

BRIDGEND Athletic RFC under-8s hosted Taibach RFC with the Athletic winning 18 tries to 7.

Try scorers were Ashton Davies (5), Rudi Quinn (4), Mason Brown (3), Ethan Davies (3), Max Edwards, Regan Henly and Jude Lewis.

Stand out performers in defence were Mason Brown with 17 tags and Ashton Davies with nine.

After a heavy 53-5 defeat earlier in the season, the Athletic under-13s travelled up to Treorchy with hope more than expectation.

Treorchy are probably the best team they have played this season. A herculean effort saw the Athletic boys turn this around for a 36-33 win.

A fantastic team effort with every boy playing his part. Tries were scored by Shea Duggan, Jacob Hughes, Ryan Jones, Luca Barclay and two for Sam Barraclough.

Jacob Hughes converted three of the tries. Well done boys.

The under-14s welcomed a very strong Caerleon side to Newbridge Fields, with the last meeting between the teams ending in a close encounter.

With only 18 players available the boys were asked to rise to the challenge and they didn't disappoint, running out 29-10 victors.

From the start the Athletic wanted to play a high-tempo game and scored from their first possession with forwards and backs combining in unity.

It set the pace for the rest of the game with the Ath dominating the breakdown, allowing their backs to run in some great tries.

Try scorers were Ethan Scourfield (3), Ieuan Bissmire and Callum Duckett, with Evan Beach adding two conversions.

Captain Charlie Ashpole led by example with strong performances from Evan Beach and Harper Chamberlain.

Caerleon never gave up without a fight and ran in a couple of well-worked tries themselves.

AB

Day bags second title of season

BRIDGEND'S Ryan Day won his second ranking title this season by beating China's Cao Yupeng 4-0 in the final of the Gibraltar Open.

The victory follows his first-ever ranking title at the Riga Masters last June. After 19 years as a professional, Day, aged 37 and from Pontycymer, now has his sights set on further success.

"It is a tremendous feeling, and hopefully this is going to give me even more confidence," he said.

He is only now just outside the world top 16 and wants to reach the elite in time for the World Championship in Sheffield next month to avoid having to qualify for the Crucible.

Day is keen to impress at the Players' Championship in Llandudno which starts next Monday.

"The season I have had following the victory I had in Riga shows I have taken a lot of confidence from the win," Day told the BBC.

"We are getting to the nitty-gritty of the season in terms of Crucible qualifying. I need to put a good show in Llandudno so I don't have to go through the pressure of the World Championship qualifying system."

For the win in Gibraltar, which earned him £25,000, Day beat Xu Si 4-2, Oliver Brown 4-1, Martin O'Donnell 4-1, Fang Ziongman 4-1, Joe Perry 4-1, Scott Donaldson 4-3 and finally Cao Yupeng 4-0.

Day made breaks in the final of 58, 72 and 100, restricting Yupeng to just 24 points over the four frames. He had also made three century breaks in earlier rounds.

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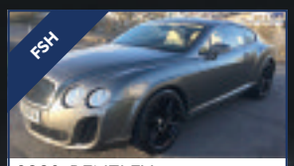

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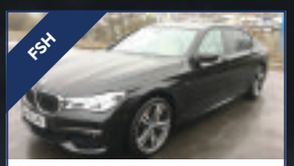

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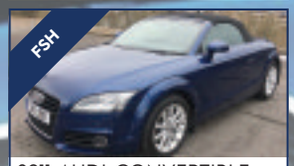

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16 16 BMW 535 D M Sport 4dr automatic, BMW warranty April 2019, M Sport plus pack, sat nav, 19"alloys, electric sunroof, 18k, silver……£22995

11 61 BMW 520 D M Sport Estate automatic, privacy glass, heated seats, white, full leather……£10495

15 65 BMW 640 D M Sport Gran Coupe 4dr automatic, BMW warranty Nov 2018, sat nav, 19"alloys, 27k, silver, full leather……£24995

16 16 BMW X4 30D X-Line XDRIVE 5dr automatic, BMW warranty May 2019, sat nav, heated seats, DAB, 26k, white, full leather……£26995

13 13 DACIA DUSTER 1.6 Access 5dr, 26k, white……£5795

15 65 DS DS3 1.6 BlueHDI DSTYLE 3dr, Citroen warranty Jan 2019, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 10k, choice……£8795

15 65 FIAT 500 1.2 Lounge 3dr, Fiat warranty Oct 2018, pan roof, Bluetooth, 10k, grey……£7495

14 64 FORD ECOSPORT 1.5 TDCI Titanium 5dr, Bluetooth, USB, PDC, 27K, black……£8995

17 17 FORD KUGA 2.0 TDCI ST-Line 5dr, Ford warranty June 2020, sat nav, cruise, 2k, white, half leather……£19995

15 15 KIA CEED 1.4 SR7 5dr, Kia warranty until Aug 2022, Bluetooth, PDC, 25k, white……£8495

15 65 KIA PICANTO 1.2 CHILLI Eco Dynamics 3dr, Kia warranty Jan 2023, PDC, privacy glass, Bluetooth, USB, 15k, white, half leather……£7995

16 16 KIA SOUL EV 5dr automatic, sat nav, reverse camera, cruise, heated seats, 7k, met blue……£15995

13 63 LEXUS CT 200h 1.8 Advance 5dr CVT, sat nav, reverse camera, 28k, black, full leather……£11995

14 14 MAZDA 3 2.0 Sport Nav 5dr automatic, bose, heated seats, 21k, red, full leather……£12495

16 16 MERCEDES B180 DSE 5dr, reverse camera, full leather, 21k, choice auto or manual from……£13295

14 14 MERCEDES BENZ C180 AMG Sport Edition (Premium Plus) 2dr 7G-Tronic Plus, panoramic roof, heated seats, reverse camera, black, half leather/sued……£14495

15 65 MERCEDES E220 CDI BlueTEC AMG Night Editon 7G-Tronic plus Estate, Mercedes warranty Sep 2018, sat nav, DAB Bluetooth, choice, full leather……£18995

16 65 MERCEDES BENZ E220 CDI BlueTec AMG Line 2dr 7G-Tronic Plus, Mercedes warranty Dec 2018, sat nav, heated seats, Bluetooth, 32k, grey, full leather……£18495

16 66 MINI CLUBMAN 2.0 D COOPER 6dr, sat nav, chilli pack, 10k, white……£14295

15 65 MINI COOPER S 2.0 3dr (Chili & TLC pack) Mini warranty Jan 2019, Bluetooth, privacy glass, USB, 18k, deep blue, half leather……£12995

15 65 MINI COOPER 1.5 D 5dr, chilli pack, Bluetooth, 25k, choice……£9495

15 64 MINI COUPE 1.6 Cooper 2dr, chilli + TLC pack, 17"alloys, heated seats, 25k, hgalf-leather, choice……£8495

15 15 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI Acenta 5dr, Nissan warranty April 2018, cruise, Bluetooth, 28k, choice……£10995

15 15 PEUGEOT 208 1.6 THP GTI 3dr (200bhp) Peugeot warranty Aug 2018, sat nav, pan roof, 12k, white, half leather……£11495

14 14 PEUGEOT 2008 1.6 E-HDI Allure 5dr, cruise, PDC, USB, 23k, grey……£8295

14 64 RENAULT CAPTUR 0.9 TCE Energy Dynamique Media Nav 5dr, sat nav ,cruise, 21k, blue……£8995

15 65 SKODA FABIA 1.2 TSI Monte Carlo 5dr, Skoda warranty Sep 2018, pan roof, black alloys, race blue……£8995

15 15 SMART FORFOUR 0.9 Proxy 5dr, Smart warranty July 2018, pan roof, cruise, Bluetooth, 21k, black, half white leather……£6795

15 64 TOYOTA AURIS 1.8 VVT-I Excel e-CVT HSD 5dr automatic, Toyota warranty Feb 2020, sat nav, heated seats, 11k, white……£14995

15 15 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 CDTI ecoFLEX Elite 5dr, Vauxhall warranty July 2018, 18"alloys, cruise, 20k, choice……£9995

14 14 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA TOURER 2.0 CDTI (165) SRI 5dr (7-seater) 18"alloys, cruise, Bluetooth, 53k, red……£7995

15 65 VW GOLF 1.4 TSI BlueMotion Tech GTE 5dr DSG, VW warranty Oct 2018, 18"alloys, cruise, Bluetooth, privacy glass, 20k, silver……£19995

15 65 VW GOLF 2.0 TDI BlueMotion Tech GTD 5dr, VW warranty Jan 2019, sat nav, heated seats, PDC, 21k, choice, automatic or manual, from……£16495

15 65 VOLVO XC60 2.0 D4 SE 5dr Geartronic, Volvo warranty Dec 2018, privacy glass, DAB, Bluetooth, black, full leather……£17995

16 66 VOLVO XC60 2.4 D4 SE Lux Nav Estate 4X4 Gearbox, Volvo warranty Sep 2019, sat nav, 15k, silver, full leather……£21495

14 64 FIAT 500 1.2 Lounge 3dr, pan roof, Bluetooth, 16k, choice **£6295**

14 64 RANGEROVER EVOQUE 2.2 ED4 Pure Tech 5dr, sat nav, 18"alloys, heated seats, black, full leather **£18995**

16 65 BMW 118i Sport 5dr, BMW warranty March 2018, sat nav, 17"alloys, 19k, black **£13995**

15 64 FORD KUGA 2.0 TDCI Titanium 5dr (Appearance Pack) sat nav, 19"alloys, cruise, 26k, tiger eye orange, half leather **£13995**

16 66 SEAT ALHAMBRA 2.0 TDI Ecomotive SE 5dr (7-seater) Seat warranty Dec 2019, alloys, pdc front & rear, 20k, silver **£16995**

16 66 AUDI A1 1.0 T FSI SE 3dr, Audi warranty Dec 2019, alloys, AUX, 5k, black **£11995**

15 65 MERCEDES BENZ CLS220d AMG Line 4dr automatic, Mercedes warranty Oct 2018, sat nav, 19"alloys, xenons, 19k, black, full leather **£22995**

15 65 BMW I3 E 5dr automatic, BMW warranty Jan 2019, DC rapid charge prep, sat nav, 19"alloys, heated seats, 13k, white **£16495**

15 15 FORD KA 1.2 Zetec 3dr, aircon, alloys, USB, 32k, met white **£5495**

15 65 FORD FIESTA 1.0 T EcoBoost Red Edition 3dr, Ford warranty Oct 2018, 17"alloys, privacy glass, Bluetooth, 16k, red **£9495**

15 65 MERCEDES BENZ CLA180 AMG Sport 4dr, Mercedes warranty Oct 2018, sat nav, cruise, 21k, black, half leather **£18995**

13 63 MERCEDES BENZ E350 CDI BlueTec AMG Sport 2dr cabriolet 7G-Tronic Plus, memory package, 19"AMG alloys, sat nav, airscarf, Harman Kardon, xenons, silver, full navy leather **£18495**

16 16 MERCEDES BENZ E220 CDI BlueTec SE Estate 7G-Tronic Plus, sat nav, Bluetooth, grey, full leather **£16995**

14 64 BMW 116 2.0 D Sport 5dr, service pack, DAB, Bluetooth, 17"alloys, 29k, red **£10795**

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In met red, 9,000 miles, under Nissan warranty
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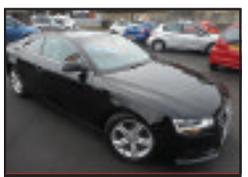

12 Audi A5 SE TFSi 1.8 Coupe
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In white, 10,000 miles, host of extras
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63 PORSCHE Cayman 2.7 Auto In white, 10,000 miles, host of extras ..... **REDUCED TO £34,995**

17 VW Tiguan 2.0 Diesel SEL 4-Motion Auto In met-blue, 9,000 miles **£25,995**

01 JAGUAR XK8 4.0 V8 Auto Convertible In silver/navy hood with cream leather, very nice, low mileage **£13,995**

12 AUDI A5 SE TFSi 1.8 Coupe In black, only 59,000 miles, leather seats, climate, start/stop.....**£11,995**

16 NISSAN Pulsar 1.2 DIG-T Tekna In met red, 9,000 miles, under Nissan warranty **£10,995**

60 AUDI TT 2.0 TDi Sport Quattro In met-blue, 83,000 mile sports coupe **£10,495**

60 BMW 325i M-Sport Automatic Coupe In space grey with black leather, full specification, 57,000 miles **£10,495**

12 BMW X1 XDrive 2.0 DSE In met red, black interior, 66,000 miles, diesel 4x4 .....**£9,995**

11 VOLKSWAGEN Touran 1.6 TDi SE Blue-Tech In met blue, 63,000 mile, diesel 7 seater **£9,995**

63 HYUNDAI ix35 1.7 Diesel SE-Nav In white, 57,000 miles, under manufacturers warranty **£9,795**

16 RENAULT Clio 900 TCE Dynamique 5-Dr In flame red, 14,000 miles with sat nav, pan roof **£8,995**

65 TOYOTA Auris 1.6 Diesel Business Edition 5-Dr In black, 39,000 miles, 1 owner, £20 road tax.....**£8,995**

13 HONDA Jazz 1339cc EX Automatic 5-Dr In met-bronze, only 7,000 miles from new, panoramic roof **£8,995**

64 FORD Fiesta 1.0 Zetec 5-Dr In hot magenta, 17,000 miles, free road tax **£8,495**

60 HONDA CR-Z GT-1-VTEC 1.5 Hybrid In pearl white, only 14,000 miles and 1 owner.....**£8,495**

65 SMART For Two 999cc Prime Premium In silver/black, 9,000 miles, huge spec **£7,995**

64 HONDA Jazz 1.3 i-VTEC Ex In electric blue, 35,000 miles, pan-roof etc.....**£7,995**

13 VOLKSWAGEN Caddy-Max C20 Kombi 1.6 TDi In white, 90,000 miles, 5 seater with side windows **£7,995**

62 NISSAN Juke 1.5 DCi Visia In silver, 35,000 miles, very nice example **£7,995**

62 HONDA Civic I-D Tec ES 2.2 Diesel. In urban titanium, 38,000 miles, £30 road tax **£7,995**

12 AUDI A3 SE 3-Dr 1.6 TDi In silver, 53,000 miles, £20 road tax **£7,995**

12 MINI Cooper Chilli 1.6 Diesel In red with white roof and mirrors, 27,000 miles high spec **£7,995**

64 VAUXHALL Meriva 1.4 SE In met-blue, 29,000 miles, practical hatchback at **£7,495**

62 HYUNDAI i40 Active Blue Drive 1.7 Diesel Estate In silver, 68,000 miles, £30 road tax **£7,495**

62 FORD B-Max 1.6 Automatic Titanium In met blue, 29,000 mile practical hatch at **£7,295**

15 CITROEN C3 1.2 Selection 5-Dr. In Met Grey, 15,000 miles, 1 owner, £20 road tax **£7,295**

66 MG3 Time VTi Tech 1.5cc 5-Dr Only 4,000 miles, start/stop, under manufacturer warranty **£6,995**

63 SKODA Rapid 1.6 Diesel TDi Elegance 5-Dr in met cappaccino beige, 49,000 miles, £30 road tax **£6,995**

13 VAUXHALL Insignia 2.0 Diesel Estate SRi Nav VX-Line In silver blue, 67,000 miles **£6,995**

13 PEUGEOT 508 Active SW Estate 1.6D In met grey, 44,000 miles, Bluetooth, only £30 road tax **£6,995**

62 HYUNDAI i30 Active BlueDrive 1.6D In met grey, 35,000 miles, bluetooth, cruise etc, free road tax **£6,995**

11 MINI One Convertible 1.6CC In ice blue, 49,000 miles, pepper pack **£6,995**

60 FORD S-Max 2.0 TDCi Zetec 7 seater In met-blue 69,000 miles, 2 owners **£6,995**

09 AUDI A4 2.0 TDi SE 4-Dr In met blue, 53,000 miles, 2 owners, bluetooth **£6,995**

08 AUDI A3 S-Line 1.9 TDi Convertible In aruba blue with leather, sat-nav etc, 95,000 miles **£6,995**

08 BMW 330i Sport Coupe 30cc. In black, 67,000 miles, sat nav, heated leather seats **£6,995**

61 FORD C-Max 1.6 Diesel TDCi Titanium In Denim Blue, 69,000 miles, high specification **£6,495**

11 PEUGEOT 308cc GT HDi 2.0D Convertible In black, 53,000 miles, leather seats **£6,495**

11 FORD S-Max 2.0 Diesel TDCi Zetec 7-Seater Automatic In Spruce Green, 95,000 miles..**£6,495**

57 BMW 320i SE Auto Converitble In red with grey leather, 81,000 miles, 1 owner.....**£6,495**

56 MERCEDES CLS 320CDi Auto Diesel In black, 83,000 miles, sat nav, leather seats **£6,495**

64 SKODA Fabia 1.2 SE 5-Dr In white, 33,000 miles, full Skoda history.....**£5,995**

14 FORD Ka Zetec 1.2 In frozen white, only 13,000 miles, start/stop, £30 road tax.....**£5,995**

12 VAUXHALL Insignia 2.0 CDTi SE Estate Automatic In white, 63,000 miles, diesel at **£5,995**

61 FORD Fiesta 1.6 Titanium 5-Dr In grey, 53,000 miles, top of the range from **£5,695**

57 MERCEDES C180 SE Kompressor Auto In silver, 83,000 miles ..... **REDUCED TO £5,495**

14 SKODA Fabia 1.2 SE 12v 5-Dr In white, 46,000 miles, 2 owners, a/c, etc **£5,495**

11 VOLKSWAGEN Polo SE 85 1.4cc 5-Dr In red, 77,000 miles, FSH.....**£5,495**

11 PEUGEOT 508 Active 1.6 HDi In Alpine Blue, 53,000 miles, large hatchback.....**£5,495**

56 MAZDA MX-5 Sport 2.0 CC In Black, 73,000 miles, hard top electric roof, heated leather seats..**£5,495**

62 SUZUKI Splash 1.2 SZ4 5-Dr In silver, 29,000 miles, £30 road tax **£5,295**

10 FORD Fiesta 1.4 TDCi Titanium 3-Dr In electric blue, 51,000 miles, bluetooth, £20 road tax **£4,995**

59 MINI Cooper Convertible In cream white with brown leather and hood **£4,695**

09 SKODA Octavia 1.9 Diesel TDi Ambiente Auto Estate In met blue, 39,000 miles **£4,995**

09 FORD Fiesta Zetec 96 1.4cc 5-Dr In avalon blue, 41,000 miles, FSH.....**£4,995**

58 AUDI 13E 104 TDi 1.9 Diesel. In black, 72,000 miles, alloys, only £30 road tax.....**£4,995**

12 KIA Pro-Ceed 2 1.6 Diesel CRDi 3-Dr. In Black, 64,000 miles, £30 road tax **£4,695**

12 FORD Fiesta Edge 1.4 TDCi 3-Dr. In Colorado Red, 71,000 miles, £20 road tax **£4,295**

08 FORD Mondeo Ghia 2.0 TDCi (130) Auto 5-Dr In silver, 77,000 mile diesel **£3,795**

08 FIAT 500 Lounge 1.2 Diesel In white, 85,000 miles with glass roof, alloys etc **£3,495**

60 CITROEN C1 'VT' 1.0 3-Dr In black, 56,000 miles, low insurance and road tax **£3,495**

07 CITROEN C1 Vibe 3-Dr In red, 42,000 miles, £20 road tax, low insurance..... **£2,495**

12 BMW X1 XDrive 2.0 DSE
In met red, black interior, 66,000 miles, diesel, 4x4
£9,995

13 VOLKSWAGEN Caddy Max C20 Kombi 1.6 TDi
In white, 90,000 miles, 5 seater with side windows
£7,995

65 SMART For Two 999cc Prime Premium
In silver/black, 9,000 miles, huge spec
£7,995

16 RENAULT Clio 900 DCE Dynamique
In flame red, 14,000 miles, sat nav, pan roof
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64 HONDA Jazz1.3 i-VTEC Ex
In electric blue, 35,000 miles, pan roof, etc
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Barry Town United secure WPL status - now for a crack at Europe!

INTERNATIONAL football returns to Jenner Park this coming Tuesday (March 20), as the newly-formed Wales C squad tackle their England counterparts in a 7.30pm kick-off.

Three Barry Town United players have made the cut, with goalkeeper Mike Lewis, full-back Chris Hugh and playmaker Jordan Cotterill poised to represent manager Mark Jones, assistant Owain Tudor Jones and Y Ddraig Goch against the visiting Three Lions.

A fourth, forward Kayne McLaggon, had been selected, only for the hometown striker to be cruelly ruled out of contention by MRI scan results, following the ankle injury sustained in Barry's 4-1 win against Llandudno.

McLaggon's injury meant the club's leading goalscorer also missed out on Friday's trip to Carmarthen, but the target man will have been delighted with the outcome at Richmond Park, as Barry battled to a 1-0 victory that secured their JD Welsh Premier League status.

With heavy rain and travel chaos in the lead-up, a delayed kick-off allowed the team, staff and fans to make it down the M4 in time.

Continuing to stake his claim for a Wales C starting place, mercurial Cotterill showed nimble footwork to set up an early shot wide, but it was Carmarthen who carved out the first clear-cut chance, an unmarked Luke Bowen forcing Lewis to save at close range from a header the marksman should really have put away.

Lewis would later stretch out to deny Luke Cummings' long-distance effort, before clawing a goalbound ball right out of the top corner to keep his team on terms.

In the second half, Lewis would repel the Old Gold by punching a corner clear, only for Carmarthen captain Liam Thomas to fire his follow-up high over the bar.

Thomas then set up Bowen to left-foot an effort wide, as the frustrated hosts were left to rue their fortunes.

Having weathered several storms on this wettest of nights, Barry had been unable to break down their opponents, yet found new avenues as the match wore on, with Jonathan Hood whipping in a great cross for fellow newcomer James Demetriou, only for home goalkeeper Lewis Thomas to somehow keep the Cypriot-Australian from scoring at the back post.

Ultimately though, attacker Demetriou would have a major part to play, the former Sydney goalscorer latching onto a Cotterill through-ball and unleashing a shot from outside the penalty area that hit a post, allowing Fahiya to coolly side-foot home the winner.

It was Fahiya's first of the season and with a matter of minutes to spare, few could be more valuable, as Barry closed in on securing their top flight safety.

With 39 points in the bag, neither Carmarthen nor upcoming opponents Prestatyn can now overtake Gavin Chesterfield's team, a terrific achievement in this first campaign back among the domestic elite.

In the coming weeks, Barry will attempt to clinch seventh spot and a place in the play-offs for European football, with Newtown's visit to Jenner Park switched to 3.30pm on Sunday, April 15 for live TV coverage on S4C.

First though, local football followers will be eager to see what part the Barry players play in Tuesday's C international, as the pick of the JD Welsh Premier League's eligible players go head-to-head with top young English talent from the National League.

Tickets for the fixture are currently on sale from the Jenner Park clubhouse (after 4pm), as well as online at FAW.Cymru, where further information is available.

AC

Quiet week for chess club

THERE were two games scheduled for the Barry Chess Club last Monday.

Snow caused the postponement of one of the games leaving the Gambits to be our sole competitors this week.

Erion Pici earned a win and John Rees a draw meaning the Quarks lost by 3.5-1.5 in their final match of the regular season.

They will go into the extra three play-off matches well adrift of the rest of the field and even if they were to win all three matches it is unlikely they will move off the bottom of the table.

These extra matches will be confirmed by the end of the week when the remaining matches have been played.

Elsewhere the Cheetahs in Division One managed a victory over Pontypridd and they, along with Bridgend, are catching up with our Bosons team who are definitely not safe from relegation yet.

In Division Two the Camelots play Penarth in their next match. With only four games to play, this match, and the final match of the season against the Crowns, will determine whether they or not they join the Quarks in being relegated into the third division.

The Barry Chess Club meets at 7.30pm each Monday at the West End Club, St. Nicholas Road, Barry, CF62 6QY.

The club is open to players of all standards; whether you are interested in playing competitive chess or just the occasional friendly games.

New players are very welcome to just turn up on the night but if you contact one of the club members through the website we can explain what is happening on the night you have in mind, and arrange for someone to greet you on your arrival.

For more details visit our website at http://barrychessclub.yolasite.com.

PHIL JONES

Added time heartbreak as Barry RFC suffer late loss

BARRY RFC travelled to face league leaders Cilfynydd looking to close the points gap, and came agonisingly close to doing so before conceding a try in the fifth minute of added time which gave the home side a 17-13 victory, a result Barry will feel did not do their efforts justice.

The game opened with Barry probing the home defence and gained an early penalty chance which sailed just wide.

Opportunities were hard to come by for both sides as defences were in control and the game resembled a game of chess for the first quarter.

In fact, it was 30 minutes before the first points were scored when Barross succeeded with a penalty chance.

This score finally brought the game to life and following a penalty which took play into the home 22, Barry drove hard at the Cilfyndd line with a series of mauls which appeared to be coming to nothing until the ball was scooped up by Barross to cross unopposed for a try which the same player converted, to give them a 10 point lead as half-time neared.

Cilfynydd came straight back, as Barry failed to control the restart, giving the ball away. With the defensive line out of position, they took the opportunity to cross for a converted try.

Going back on the attack Barry were fortunate not to concede a second try in as many minutes as an interception should have produced a score, but fortunately they scrambled back in defence and the chance was wasted.

Cilfyndd kept Barry pinned down for the remaining seconds of the half but could not score so at half-time the score was 10-7 in Barry's favour, which was a fair reflection on the game so far

Barry had an early chance to increase their lead as the game restarted but again the ball sailed wide. Cilfynydd began to use their threequarters more and looked threatening on occasion, only to be let down by some poor handling and a solid Barry defence.

Cilfynydd maintained this pressure and Barry conceded two quick penalties to find themselves on their goaline.

Opting for the scrum, the ball was moved wide to find the winger, who crossed wide out for an unconverted try, and, more importantly, the lead for the first time with 20 minutes to go.

That lead was lost straight away as Barry forced Cilfynydd to concede a penalty from the restart, and this time Barross was successful to put them a point ahead.

With the clock running down both teams looked for attacking opportunities, but as had been the case all afternoon neither of these well-matched teams were prepared to give anything away and a stalemate ensued.

The game had entered time added on as Barry were penalised on halfway with the resultant kick taking play into the Barry 22.

Despite initially appearing to have the ball covered, Barry were undone by the pace on the outside and Cilfynydd crossed for the winning score, with the final whistle going immediately after.

Barry will be naturally disappointed with the outcome but could not have tried harder against an efficient opposition who deserve their position in the table.

With seven games to go there is still all to play for before the season ends. The next fixture is against St Peters at home on March 24, kick off 2.30pm.

There were no winners on the lottery again this week, where the numbers were 03, 06, 10 and 24.

Two winners claimed £10 for matching three numbers, and this week's prize increases to £1,150.

AJ

The Barry and District Ladies Skittles League results

WEEK commencing March 5:

Division 1 - Bakers Dozen 284 (A.Haines 30), Space Finders 266 (M.Rees 28); Barry Stars 293 (C.Lambeth & N.Jones 30), Cigar Ladies 311 (E.Simmons 31); Fallen Angels 266 (C.Jones 30), Colcot Ladies 237 (B.Heathfield, B.Bowring & B.Wilkins 25); Coppers 305 (D.Nesbitt 30), Cadoxton Conservative Fillies 316 (S.Chilcott 35).

Division 2 - Castle Bandits 232 (J.McAndrew 26), LaBells 255 (B.Day, E.Cordy & C.Knight 25); Rhoose Starlights 232 (J.Bryan 30), Roller Coasters 226 (S.Sary 25); Witchill Widows 212 (C.Gregory 33), Special Angels 311 (B.Taylor & L.Mountford 30); Sea View Lights 207 (P.Forrester 32), Airways Angels 269 (E.Jones 29).

Division 3 - Off the Rails 254 (L.Mcormack 29), Sea View Ladies 210 (C.Griffiths 25); Rebels 230 (C.Carter & S.Oram 24), Rugby Triers 241 (N.Ray 25); Dolly Mixtures 190 (L.Marsh 23), Little Devils 163 (G.Bowen 23); Etcetera 231 (J.Barrett 25), Persuaders 264 (K.Kemp & M.Whitehurst 27); Uptown Girls 270 (J.Hawkins, S. Peacock & J.Marsh 26), Westenders 227 (J.Somers 23).

Division 4 - Witches 236 (V.Walters & C.Kemp 24), Witchill Wanderers 169 (G.Peplow 28); Twilights 185 (C.Thomas 25), Bimbo's 208 (A.Burniston & M Winder 22); Odd Bods 149 (R.Perry, T.Ceriani & K Dutton 22), Aristocats 209 (T.Weston 27); Hellraisers 225 (C.Hatcher & D.Ellett 25), Optimists 210 (M.Luxton & S.Pritchard 24).

HB

Barrivale Bridge Club

THE results for the Barrivale Bridge Club event which took place on March 6 are as follows:

The top three places were: first, Irene Thomas and Jenny Vaughan 63.89 per cent; second, Alan Jones and Lyn Matthews 61.90 per cent; third, Debbie Dawkins and Hilary Morgan 54.76 per cent.

The handicap winners were Debbie Dawkins and Hilary Morgan.

As always, new members are welcome at the club and a partner may be arranged if required. If you would like to join us call any of the following numbers: 01446 418380 or 01446 733425 or 01446 735592, or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry at 7pm on Tuesday evening.

Alternatively, players inexperienced or new may attend on Fridays at 10am at the same address where lessons and play take place in a relaxed atmosphere.

While our current class for beginners continues to run on Friday mornings, new members wishing to start the class will be able to join the next beginner's class commencing in September 2018.

LH

Cowbridge Darts League news

ON Tuesday, March 6 a full programme of league matches was completed.

At the top of the table the Edmondes B's 7-2 defeat of the Highwayman Inn added another point to the gap to second place, with Llanharry only winning 6-3 against the Edmondes C.

The latter match was very tight with all games going down to the last leg. Simon Perkins (Edmondes C) also hit his fourth 180.

The Edmondes A beat the Farmers Arms 6-3. In this match Steve Simmonite joined the over 100 out club, hitting a 148 out, treble 20, treble 16 finishing with a double 20.

The Six Bells Inn consolidated their grip on the third spot defeating the Victoria Inn 9-0. In the bottom of the table clash the One Town Hall Square beat the Red Lion Inn 7-2. The Hairy Farmers had a bye.

Other notable high outs on the night were: Phil Rogal (Six Bells Inn) 90, Nick Smith (Edmondes B) 80 and Andy Kirby (Highwayman Inn) 72.

Present league standings, after 15 weeks, are: Edmondes B (96 points), Llanharry (93), Six Bells Inn (83), Highwayman Inn (74), Hairy Farmers (69), Edmondes C (68), Edmondes A (67), Victoria Inn (59), Farmers Arms (52), One Town Hall Square (36) and Red Lion Inn (17).

Next week, Tuesday, March 20, Llanharry Workingmen's Club will host both the men's and ladies doubles knockout competitions.

For further information e-mail Paul at cowbridgedarts@gmail.com, or via www.darts.apsn.co.uk.

PJT

The Barry and District League tables and results

THE latest results for the Barry and District League are as follows:

CRIB DIVISION 1: Cadoxton Cons 8, Wyndham Cons 7; Rhoose Social 9, Moors Boys 6; West End Runaways 5, West End 10.

League table: Liberals 144, Cadoxton Con 140, Wyndham Cons 138, Rhoose Social 135, West End Runaways 133, Moors Boys 129, West End 126.

SKITTLES DIVISION 1: King William XII 6, West End C 1; Rugby Club 6, Liberals A 1; Rhoose Social A 1, Rhoose Social B 6; Rhoose Social C 1, Sea View B 6; Cambrian Flyers 5, Rhoosters 2; West End D 5, Slammers 2; Liberals C 2½, Allsorts 4½; Barries Boys 4, Barry Town FC 3.

League table: West End D 98.0, Sea View B 95.0; Rugby Club 82.5, West End C 81.0, Rhoose Social C 73.5, King William XII 72.0, Rhoosters 70.0, Rhoose Social A 67.0, Slammers 65.0, Rhoose Social B 59.0, Allsorts 58.0, Barry Town FC 53.5, Liberals A 52.0, Liberals C 51.0, Cambrian Flyers 43.5, *Barries Boys 36.0.

SNOOKER DIVISION 1: Cadoxton Cons Z 4, Savoy B 1; Wyndham Cons A 3, Cadoxton Cons B 2; Savoy A 4, Penarth Cons A 1; Harbour B 5, Services Social B 0; West End C 4, Rhoose Social B 1.

League table: Harbour B 92, Savoy A 79, Cadoxton Cons Z 57, Wyndham Cons A 57, Cadoxton Cons B 56, West End C 48, Liberators 40, Penarth Cons A 36, Services Social B 32, *Savoy B 31, Rhoose Social B 30.

SNOOKER DIVISION 2: Cadoxton Misfits 2, Cadoxton Cons A 3; Harbour A 4, Market Street C 1; West End B 1, Rhoose Social C 4; Market Street B 3, Sully Sports A 2; Penarth Cons B 4, West End A 1.

League table: Cadoxton Misfits 66, Rhoose Social C 60, Penarth Cons B 56, Market Street B 55, Harbour A 54, Cadoxton Cons A 53, Market Street C 48, Wyndham Cons D 46, West End A 44, West End B 42, Sully Sports A 41.

** = Points deducted.*

All league and cup fixtures and results at www.barryleagues.co.uk.

SIX NATIONS 2018

WALES 38 ITALY 14

A stress-free afternoon for Wales as they strike early against Italy

Report by PHILIP IRWIN

TO begin, a few thoughts on what the roof on the Principality Stadium brings to Welsh rugby.

There are a lot of pluses, and number one has to be the comfort of the crowd. With rain sweeping across south Wales, it was great to see a crowd settling down to enjoy the game in regular clothes rather than kagoules. We ask the faithful to have deep pockets these days, so a little comfort seems a fair trade.

Another plus is that matches are less of a lottery. If a match is to be decided by a mistake, let it be a genuine error and not just a failing to hang on to a greasy ball at a crucial moment.

Finally, of course, you get a better spectacle, but this comes at a price, because we expect Wales to be the major players in that spectacle.

We can rely on the Scots to join in that enterprise, because they are trying to play a fast and loose game. Sadly, a touch too loose at the moment.

Are England, France and Ireland up for it? Well, that depends on pragmatism on the day, but let's not hold our breath about Ireland suddenly playing Barbarians-style rugby.

Fortunately, on Sunday, Italy were happy to join in with the open play, perhaps because they were confident that they had the best open-field runner in their lightweight full back, Matteo Minozzi.

After 10 minutes, there were 21 points on the board. At that rate, it could be 110 - 55 at full time.

After three minutes, Wales declined a 40-metre penalty and Gareth Anscombe kicked for the corner. The line out was won and a series of slick attacks put Wales close to the line, from where scrum half Gareth Davies missed out Justin Tipuric and sent a longer pass to Hadleigh Parkes instead.

In truth, that pass was a touch high but, because Parkes had to leap and twist in the air, his marker, centre Tomasso Castello, got his body position wrong and the Wales centre slipped from his grasp and went over for a try. Sadly, Castello hit his head in the tackle and had to be substituted.

Anscombe converted and, from the restart, Parkes demonstrated that even when he makes a mistake (and he makes very few), it turns out well for Wales. He caught the kick-off but the ball was ripped from his grasp and Italy, in their eagerness to move the ball wide, threw a blind pass and Owen Watkin intercepted.

The centre raced away and looked, for a moment, to have lost contact with any support runners.

However, he was smart enough to sense George North coming up at speed on his right, and he linked up perfectly for the Northampton outcast to go over for another try, again converted by Anscombe.

The crowd were sensing a floodgates moment but Italy were made of sterner stuff. They showed their intent by turning down a penalty and, after winning the lineout, they set up an ominous driving maul, which Wales collapsed. With a penalty advantage in the bag, they moved the ball left and Minozzi skinned Liam Williams to go over in the corner.

Tomasso Allan, who went on to have a good game at outside half – even getting up smiling after being winded by a crunching tackle from Taulupe Faletau – converted from wide out and it was 14–7 to Wales.

Taulupe Faletau was immense for Wales, in his first game as captain. (All photographs by the Huw Evans Agency).

Warren Gatland had been accused of "disrespecting" Italy when he made 10 changes – a little unfair when, as Rob Howley pointed out, three British Lions were returning after injury.

However, he was clearly looking for his second-string front row players, Nicky Smith, Elliot Dee and Tomas Francis, to show that they could start a major international match, rather than playing the last 20 minutes. Italy would provide that test, but it was 16 minutes before the first scrum in the game. On that one, Italy had the put in and did not seem under pressure.

On 17 minutes, Wales seemed to have scored again. The ball was moved slickly along the line, and Steff Evans kicked ahead for Gareth Davies to touch down. However, the Scarlets scrum-half had strayed in front of his team-mate by just one yard when Evans kicked.

Two minutes later, flanker James Davies, who overall had an excellent match, was caught landing an unnecessary late shoulder charge on Allan, and the outside half responded by putting the penalty kick 10 metres from the Welsh goal line. The lineout became an attacking scrum for Italy but Wales defended it well.

Two minutes later, Wales relieved the pressure with a kick ahead and Minozzi scored another point against Liam Williams by out-pacing him and regaining possession for the Azzuri.

Italy were soon back on the attack, and turned down two more penalties, opting for a kick to the corner instead. Good defence by Wales kept them out, and when Allan did opt to kick for three points, he blotted his copybook by missing.

To rub salt into the wound, Wales managed to get into the Italian half, where they were awarded a penalty 30 metres out, which Anscombe kicked to make it 17–7.

Then, with half-time looming, Wales were on the attack again close to the Italian line, and had a penalty advantage. They took the sensible option of kicking high to the corner, knowing they could come back for the penalty.

Unfortunately, Liam Williams decided to land a heavy tackle on his tormentor, Minozzi.

Referee Jeromes Garces asked TMO Marius Jonker to look at it and you had the feeling that each time the officials looked at it, the worse it became.

In the end, Wales were relieved it was just a yellow. Two more views and it could have been a red. The penalty for Wales was, of course, overturned.

Wales coach Warren Gatland, so it turned out, was furious. He sentenced Williams to sit patiently pitchside for the first 10 minutes of the second half – seemingly seeing out his time in the sin bin – and then replaced him with Leigh Halfpenny!

Wales came out for the second half with 14 men, but immediately made ground into the Italian 25, and a series of clinical attacks put second row Cory Hill over for a try that Anscombe converted.

Now leading by 24–10, the pressure seemed to be off for Wales, but Gareth Davies added a bit more, going to the sin bin himself after a deliberate knock on.

He also did not come back on when his 10 minutes were over, being replaced by Aled Davies, but that seemed to be more a regular replacement, as it came on the 60-minute mark.

As a result of his infringement, Italy had a lineout close to the Welsh line, with Wales down to 13 men. However, the Italians messed up the throw and Wales breathed again.

Once Wales were back to 15 men, the result was not in doubt. Patchell took over at outside half and was impressive.

George North was back to his best.

James Davies had a fine first game for Wales.

Four minutes after Patchell came on, a Welsh attack put Hadleigh Parkes over for his second, but the TMO was a bit harsh, ruling it out due to a lack of 'conclusive' grounding.

It mattered not. Two minutes later Wales were camped on the Italian line and Patchell drew defenders to him before putting George North over for his second try. Halfpenny converted for a score of 31–7.

Soon after, Halfpenny made a strong break and a try seemed certain. The forwards were, initially, reluctant to let the ball go wide but when they did, Hadleigh Parkes sent a precise lobbed pass to Tipuric, who went over in the corner. Halfpenny converted for 38–7.

Hadleigh Parkes continued to be 'Mr Depenable' for Wales.

There was time for a consolation try for the Italian left wing Bellini, making it 38-14 after the successful conversion, but all in all, it was a good day for Wales.

Gatland will sleep easier knowing that he has a complete back row of Shingler, Navidi and Moriarty in the frame, as well as Sunday's three.

Selection for the final game against France will not be easy!

Jonathan Davies awarded Hadleigh Parkes the man-of-the-match trophy on 78 minutes, leaving time for George North to go over for his hat-trick try – which sadly was ruled out for an earlier infringement.

Davies joked that, had North's try been allowed, he would have had to switch the trophy to George, but the truth is that Parkes was the standout candidate. I've said before that he has that Steve Fenwick quality of always doing the right thing.

Like Fenwick, he hasn't an extravagant sidestep, or blinding pace.

He just passes when that is right, kicks when that is best, and holds onto the ball when that is the sensible option.

Hadleigh makes it quite a simple game!